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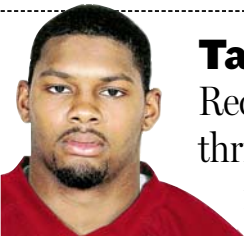
## Weekend



Nicalas and Cecilia Sarkozy are splitting up.

**C'est Fini:** French president and wife announce divorce | 9

**Veto Holds:** House fails to override Bush on SCHIP | 3



**Taylor Made:** Redskins safety thrives in his new role | 14

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### A Current Affair:

Jake Gyllenhaal takes on torture in 'Rendition.' Plus, Ben Affleck's 'Gone Baby Gone.'

>> 23-35



## UNDER THE COVERS

FAT FASHION BOOKS WILL DELIGHT AND DAZZLE | STYLES



**RUSHED TO SAFETY:** Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is hurried from her truck in Karachi on Thursday after a bomb exploded nearby during a celebration marking her return after eight years in exile.

## Blasts Hit Bhutto's Convoy

Ex-PM targeted on return to Pakistan; 108 are killed

KARACHI, PAKISTAN | A suicide bombing in a crowd welcoming former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto killed 108 people Thursday night, shattering her celebratory procession through Pakistan's biggest city after eight years in exile.

Two explosions struck near a truck carrying Bhutto, but police and officials of her party said she was not injured and was hurried to her house.

Bhutto flew home to lead her Pakistan People's Party in January parliamentary elections, drawing cheers from supporters massed in a sea of the party's red, green and black flags. The throngs reflected Bhutto's enduring political clout, but she has made enemies of Islamic militants by taking a pro-U.S. line.

Authorities had urged her to use a helicopter to reduce the risk of attack amid threats from extremists sympathetic to the Taliban and al-Qaeda, but she brushed off the concerns.

Last month, she had told CNN she realized she was a target. Islamic militants, she said, "don't believe in women governing nations, so they will try to plot against me, but these are risks that must be taken. I'm prepared to take them." (AP)



COULD A U.S. PRESIDENT GOVERN EFFECTIVELY IF HE GOT A DIVORCE WHILE IN OFFICE? **A** YES **B** NO

**FRIDAY**  
83 60

**SATURDAY**  
74 53

**SUNDAY**  
76 58

# eyeOpeners

## EUPHEMISMS

### Thief Not Timeliest Hand on the Clock

A man who walked into a meeting with his probation officer wearing a Rolex watch ended up sporting handcuffs. Victor Lopez, 32, was arrested Tuesday on a probation violation for possessing stolen property and was booked into the Santa Fe County jail, police said. The probation officer grew suspicious when he noticed Lopez wearing the \$2,500 watch and called police, Wheeler said. "It goes back to that thought process that these guys aren't the sharpest tools in the shed," said Santa Fe Deputy Police Chief Aric Wheeler. The watch was stolen Sunday evening. (AP)



## THEY GROW!

### Never Flush Worms Down the Toilet

Nadege Brunacci was washing her hands in her bathroom Monday when she glanced back and saw a 7-foot-long python peeking out from her toilet, most of its body hidden in the pipes. "I turned on the light and screamed," said Brunacci, 38, of Brooklyn. "It still makes my heart race." Brunacci slammed down the lid, put a heavy box on top of the toilet and began calling for help, which came from her landlord and firefighters. Plumbers had to tear apart the downstairs neighbor's pipes to capture the snake, she said. Brunacci, a restaurateur, says she gave the snake to a friend, who named it after her. (AP)



## FOUND OBJECTS

### Bowl of Confusion

"Holy crap, it's a giant toilet!" exclaimed Deputy C. Neely of the King County, Wash., Sheriff's Office when she found, yes, a giant toilet sitting by the side of a road, covered by a tarp. The commode — which sports wheels and a driver's seat — was apparently built by five friends in Colorado Springs, Colo., and brought to Seattle last month for a race. It was liberated from the back of a truck, which was stolen. The latter has not been found. (AP)



Snowball is a very unusual bird. Most cockatoos favor 'N Sync or 98 Degrees.

## HONORS

### Backstreet Boys Get Tribute Band, Finally

Snowball can't get enough of the Backstreet Boys. The bird lifts his legs and bobs his head to the beat of the boy band's "Everybody (Backstreet's Back)." When Snowball was given to a bird rescue shelter a few months ago, his owner included the CD. Irena Schulz, of Bird Lovers Only Rescue in Schererville, Ind., said she almost fainted. She says she's been contacted by people from around the world who saw Snowball on YouTube. (AP)

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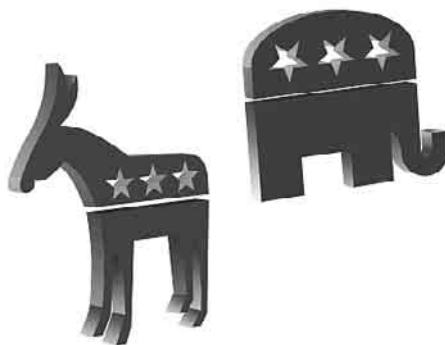
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"He's a very smart liberal, he's a thoroughgoing patriot, and I would feel better with him in the Senate."

—Ben Stein, announcing his support for the Senate candidacy of comedian Al Franken

## Nation

### In Brief



Joey Bishop, a member of Frank Sinatra's famous Rat Pack, has died at 89.

#### LOS ANGELES

##### Comedian Joey Bishop Dies at Home in Calif.

Joey Bishop, the stone-faced comedian who found success in nightclubs, television and movies but became most famous as a member of Frank Sinatra's Rat Pack, has died at 89. He was the group's last surviving member. Peter Lawford died in 1984, Sammy Davis Jr. in 1990, Dean Martin in 1995 and Sinatra in 1998. Bishop died Wednesday night of multiple causes at his home in Newport Beach. (AP)

#### WASHINGTON

##### Sources: Hastert Will Not Finish His Term in Congress

Former House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert will resign before his term ends 15 months from now, closing a 21-year career in Congress, Republican aides said on Thursday. Hastert's resignation would mean a special election, probably in early 2008, in his Chicago-area district. Hastert, 65, was the longest-serving Republican speaker in history. (AP)

# House Fails to Override Bush Veto

## White House calls for compromise on children's health bill

WASHINGTON | The Democratic-controlled House failed on Thursday to override President Bush's veto of a politically popular children's health bill, and the White House instantly called for compromise talks on a replacement.

"As long as the bottom line is that 10 million children are covered. That's non-negotiable," responded Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. She pledged that new legislation would be ready within two weeks, and within hours, key lawmakers met to consider changes in the vetoed measure.

The maneuvering followed a 273-156 vote that left supporters 13 votes short of the two-thirds majority needed to prevail in a bruising veto struggle between congressional Democrats and a politically weakened Republican president.

It was Bush's third veto of the



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said on Thursday that lawmakers will have a new version of the children's health care bill ready for a vote within two weeks.

year. He has yet to be overridden, although Democrats say they will do so on a water projects bill that soon will go to the White House.

"We won this round," said White House press secretary Dana Perino, despite an aggressive advertising campaign for the insurance bill by

#### CARE PROVIDER

→ At a cost of \$35 billion over five years, the vetoed measure would have added nearly 4 million uninsured children to the insurance program. It provides coverage for those who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but whose families cannot afford private health care. → Critics said that the bill was a step toward socialized medicine.

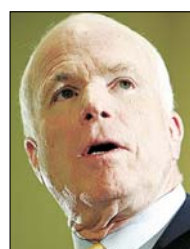
Democratic allies that was aimed at GOP lawmakers.

Democrats cited public opinion polls that showed overwhelming support for a health care expansion and they predicted some Republicans would pay a heavy price at the polls for sticking with Bush.

Within an hour of the vote, both sides were staking out their ground for compromise talks.

Perino said Bush wants to "take care of poor children first" and was willing to spend more than he has proposed. DAVID ESPO (AP)

### HEARSAY | ROCK 'N' ROLL POLITICS



"[A] Woodstock museum is a shining example of what's wrong with Washington on pork-barrel, out-of-control [federal] spending."

—SEN. JOHN MCCAIN, R-ARIZ., CRITICIZING NEW YORK SENS. HILLARY CLINTON AND CHUCK SCHUMER FOR A PLAN TO EARMARK \$1 MILLION FOR A MUSEUM TO COMMEMORATE THE 1969 FESTIVAL.

## Nuclear Mix-Up May Bring Firings

WASHINGTON | The Air Force is planning to fire at least five officers for an incident in which nuclear-armed missiles were mistakenly loaded on a B-52 bomber and flown across the U.S. — the worst known violation of nuclear security rules in decades.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs

of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen are to be briefed Friday on the disciplinary plan and other results of an Air Force probe into the incident.

Two Defense Department officials said the Air Force investigation found long-established procedures for handling the munitions were not followed. (AP)

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**Nation**

**43**

The number of construction workers who died on the job in New York City last year, the most in at least a decade, according to data from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# Democrats Grill Mukasey

AG nominee refuses to say whether torture techniques are legal

WASHINGTON | Attorney General-nominee Michael Mukasey refused to say Thursday whether he considers waterboarding a form of torture, frustrating Democrats and potentially slowing his confirmation to head the Justice Department.

Mukasey, a retired federal judge who has ruled in some of the nation's highest-profile terror trials, repeatedly avoided discussing the legality of specific interrogation techniques — including forced nudity, mock executions and simulated drowning, known as waterboarding.

Instead, Mukasey stuck to his earlier definition of torture as illegal and unconstitutional — irritating Democrats who demanded a clearer answer.

During terse questioning by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., Mukasey said he did not know



Michael Mukasey, who is President Bush's nominee for attorney general, faced sharp questioning from Democrats on Thursday about techniques used in torture.

whether waterboarding is torture because he is not familiar with how it is done.

"If it's torture?" Whitehouse said. "That's a massive hedge. I mean, it either is or it isn't."

"If it amounts to torture, it is not constitutional," Mukasey answered.

Senate Judiciary Committee

Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., indicated he'll wait to get clearer answers from Mukasey before scheduling a vote to confirm him.

White House spokesman Tony Fratto said Mukasey "is not in a position to discuss interrogation techniques" that are classified, which could include waterboarding. LARA JAKES JORDAN (AP)

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A woman with shoulder-length dark hair and bangs is sitting on a dark wooden chair. She is wearing a dark turtleneck sweater under a dark denim jacket with a wide belt, and dark denim jeans with the cuffs rolled up. She is also wearing dark flat shoes with a bow detail. The background features a light-colored wall with a dark geometric pattern of squares and rectangles. A large, dark, tapered wooden floor lamp is visible on the left side of the frame.

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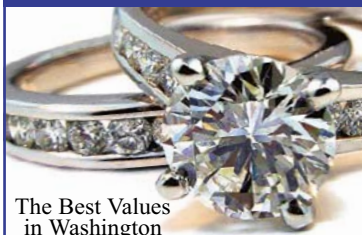
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## Nation

# Brownback Likely To End Campaign

Source: Senator's lack of fundraising forces end to presidential bid

WASHINGTON | Republican Sen. Sam Brownback, the Kansas conservative who struggled to raise money and gain recognition in the 2008 presidential campaign, will drop out on Friday, people close to him said Thursday.

Money was a main reason for his decision, said one person close to Brownback who requested anonymity because the candidate had not yet announced his plans. Brownback is expected to announce his withdrawal in Topeka, Kan.

It's widely anticipated Brownback will run for Kansas governor in 2010, when his term — his second — expires. He had promised in his first Senate campaign to serve no more than two terms.

"He also mentioned he is really



Sen. Sam Brownback is expected to run for governor of Kansas in 2010.

looking forward to spending more time in Kansas," the source said.

Reports released Monday showed that of the eight Republican candidates, Brownback was seventh in fundraising from July through September and had a mere \$94,000 cash on hand, less than any of his rivals. LIBBY QUAD (AP)



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**IT'S JUST WATER WEIGHT:** Weight-conscious lawmakers called on British authorities Thursday to replace Parliament's shooting gallery with a swimming pool, saying it would help them keep in shape.

## World

### In Brief



THIBAUT CAMUS/AP

Bikes and skateboards proved more effective than trains in Paris Thursday.

#### PARIS Public Transit Strike Causes Havoc for French Commuters

Commuters roller-skated, drove and biked to work, or simply stayed home. The biggest strike in 12 years crippled France's public transport system Thursday and handed President Nicolas Sarkozy the biggest political test of his young presidency. More than 90 percent of high-speed TGV trains were not running. Only one Paris subway line — which is automatic, with no drivers — was running as usual. Train service to and from Britain and Belgium and beyond was moderately limited by the strike. (AP)

#### YANGON, MYANMAR Junta Forms Committee To Draft New Constitution

Myanmar's ruling junta on Thursday announced the formation of a Constitution Drafting Commission, another step in the government's "road map" to democracy that is supposed to lead to free elections sometime in the future. State radio and television said the 54-member committee would be chaired by Chief Justice Aung Toe, with Attorney General Aye Maung serving as vice chairman. (AP)

#### THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS Ex-Congolese Militia Leader Charged With War Crimes

Germain Katanga, a former Congolese militia leader and army general accused of masterminding the massacre of 200 villagers, was taken into custody Thursday at the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. (AP)

# France's First Couple Call It Quits

## Nicolas Sarkozy, wife announce divorce after years of trouble

PARIS | France's glamorous first couple is no more.

President Nicolas Sarkozy and his elegant but enigmatic wife, Cecilia, called it quits and abruptly announced their divorce Thursday after months of speculation about their marriage. The split — a first for France — spelled the end of a seemingly passionate but deeply political power couple who had challenged the traditional role of president and first lady.

It struck a deep, personal blow to Sarkozy's five-month-old presidency, though friends insisted it wouldn't dent his energetic leadership as he works to reshape France, make it more competitive and nurture its alliance with the United States.

The 15-word statement from the presidential office said Cecilia, 49, and Nicolas, 52, mutually agreed to end their relationship of more than 20 years, 11 of them as a married couple. Sarkozy flew to Lisbon, Portugal, for a European summit shortly afterward, leaving a nation



MEHDI FEDOUACH/AP/GETTY IMAGES

**C'EST FIN:** French President Nicolas Sarkozy appeared with his wife, Cecilia, at a Bastille Day reception on July 14. The two announced their divorce on Thursday.

strike-bound by workers angered by his planned pension reforms.

The divorce, granted Monday, followed weeks of unconfirmed reports about an impending split, fed by frequent absences of the first

lady — a title she shunned — at official occasions.

Until the Sarkozys, French presidents' private lives remained largely off-limits to the media. Previous presidents' trysts were long

#### AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER The up-and-down relationship of French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his wife, Cecilia:

- **1996:** The couple, together since 1987, marry on Oct. 23
- **2005:** Sarkozy admits problems in the relationship in May; the couple separates for a few months.
- **2006:** The Sarkozys reunite as his campaign for the French presidency takes shape.
- **MAY 6, 2007:** Sarkozy is elected president. Cecilia looks uncomfortable at his victory rally. Reports surface she did not vote in the runoff her husband won.
- **OCT. 18, 2007:** The presidential palace announces their divorce. Lawmaker Patrick Balkany, a family friend, says Cecilia "no longer wanted to participate in the president's life, in public life."

kept secret. But Sarkozy courted the spotlight for years in his long run-up to the presidency, talking frequently about his relationship, which left his marital troubles as front-page news. ELAINE GANLEY (AP)

## 'Eternity' Actress Kerr Dead at 86

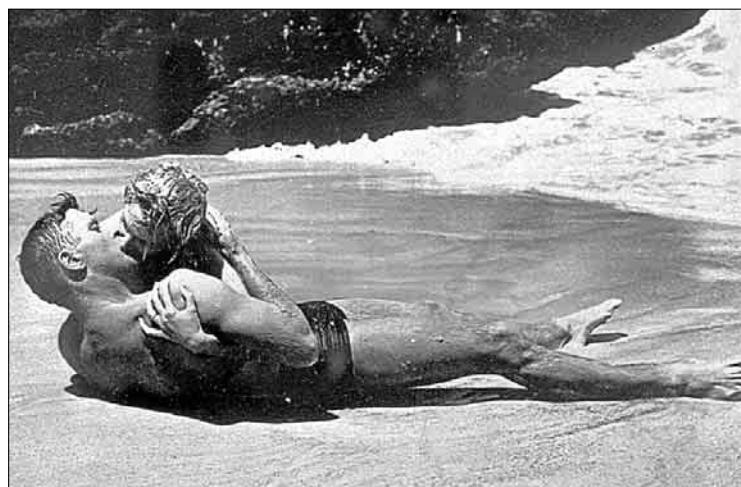
### The star shared one of Hollywood's most famous screen kisses

LONDON | Deborah Kerr, who shared one of Hollywood's most famous kisses while portraying an Army officer's unhappy wife in "From Here to Eternity" and danced with the Siamese monarch in "The King and I," has died. She was 86.

Kerr, who suffered from Parkinson's disease, died Tuesday in Suffolk in eastern England, her agent, Anne Hutton, said Thursday.

For many, she will be remembered best for her kiss with Burt Lancaster as waves crashed over them on a Hawaiian beach in the wartime drama "From Here to Eternity."

Kerr's roles as forceful, some-



COLUMBIA PICTURES/AP

Burt Lancaster kisses Deborah Kerr passionately in 1953's "From Here to Eternity."

times frustrated women pushed the limits of Hollywood's treatment of sex on the screen during the censor-bound 1950s.

The Academy of Motion Picture

Arts and Sciences nominated Kerr six times for best actress, but never gave her an Academy Award until it presented her an honorary Oscar in 1994. JILL LAWLESS (AP)

## Olmert Urges Putin to Support Iran Sanctions

MOSCOW | Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert pressed Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday to support new sanctions against Iran over its nuclear activities and urged Russia not to sell arms to Iran or Syria.

Olmert's brief, abruptly announced visit came days after Putin traveled to Iran and met with its president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has publicly called for Israel's demise. In a three-hour meeting with Putin, Olmert "expressed his opinion that effective sanctions by all the international community would have the potential to stop Iran [from] pursuing the nuclear path," said Miri Eisin, the Israeli prime minister's spokeswoman. (AP)

## World



**THICKER THAN WATER:** Police have broken up an alleged Nigerian-run mafia — complete with blood-drinking initiation rites — accused of running prostitution, extortion and fake credit card scams in northern Italy, officials said Thursday.

# Putin: The Star of a One-Man Show

President looks like he isn't going anywhere in call-in program

MOSCOW | Vladimir Putin's annual TV call-in show revealed just how much Russian politics have become a one-man show. Over the three-hour session Thursday, Putin showcased the booming economy, belittled America's troubles in Iraq and pledged to modernize the armed forces — implicitly projecting himself as the man who has restored Russia to greatness.

The tightly choreographed event underscored a dominance that had led many people to predict he plans to remain in control even after giving up the presidency next year.

Putin, who is popular among Russians for the stability and relative



**REMOTE CONTROL:** A shop assistant passes a display of TVs showing a call-in session with Russian President Vladimir Putin, who showed no signs of stepping aside.

prosperity he helped engineer, has used his five previous call-in shows, along with lavish television coverage of his travels and speeches, to project an image of a leader responding directly to voters' concerns.

Some observers said Putin's comments essentially were campaign rhetoric, designed to whip up votes for his United Russia party and telling voters exactly what they want to hear. He sought to reassure the public about his departure, saying his successor should "keep the stable course of our nation and continuity in realizing the plans that have been devised in recent years."

None of the nearly 50 questions he tackled directly asked about his plans for the future. But his message of continuity may have been a signal that his dominance will continue after next year. MIKE ECKEL (AP)

## China Says U.S.' Honoring Dalai Lama Hurt Ties

BEIJING | China warned the United States on Thursday that its honoring of the Dalai Lama this week "gravely undermined" relations, demanding Washington stop supporting the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader and take steps to repair ties.

The statement from China's Foreign Ministry was the shrillest yet against the U.S. Congress' decision to award the Dalai Lama its highest civilian honor, personally bestowed by President Bush on Wednesday.

"The move of the United States is a blatant interference with China's internal affairs, which has severely hurt the feelings of the Chinese people and gravely undermined the relations between China and the United States," Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said. (AP)

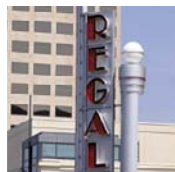
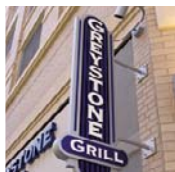
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9

The total amount, in millions of dollars, the Annapolis dedicated to a renovation project for the City Dock. The six-month project, which began Thursday, will add improved electricity to piers and a new boardwalk, Mayor Ellen Moyer said.

Local

## In Brief

## WASHINGTON

**D.C. Cabdrivers Threaten To Strike on Halloween**

Some D.C. cabdrivers upset over Mayor Adrian M. Fenty's decision to switch from zones to meters say they will strike for 24 hours on Halloween. William Wright, who heads the Taxicab Industry Group, one of several associations representing drivers, said the strike will begin at 6 a.m. Oct. 31 and end at 6 a.m. Nov. 1. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

## WASHINGTON

**Metro Teaches Spanish To Front Line Employees**

Metro began teaching basic Spanish to its front line employees this month. Eighteen employees, including bus drivers, station managers, and street supervisors, are part of the pilot project. It's meant to help fulfill federal requirements on language access for customers with limited English. The goal is for them to learn occupational-based, functional Spanish. The workers were picked because they represent customer routes that are heavily populated with Spanish speakers. (AP)

## RICHMOND, VA.

**Drought Forces Gov. Kaine To Declare Ban on Open Fires**

Gov. Tim Kaine has declared a statewide emergency and issued a ban on open fires because of drought conditions across the state. The ban begins Friday and will remain in place until there is significant rain or snow. Kaine said Thursday he has reviewed projections for the fall fire season and there appears to be a significant threat to public safety. (AP)

## Panel Seeks Saudi School Closure

## Va.'s Islamic Saudi Academy accused of promoting extremism

MCLEAN, VA. | A controversial private Islamic school in Northern Virginia supported by the Saudi government should be shut down until the U.S. government can ensure that the school is not fostering radical Islam, according to the recommendations of a federal panel.

In a report released Thursday, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom broadly

criticized what it calls a lack of religious freedom in Saudi society and promotion of religious extremism at Saudi schools. Particular criticism is levied at the Islamic Saudi Academy, a private school serving nearly 1,000 students in grades kindergarten through 12 at two campuses in Fairfax County.

The commission's report says that the academy hews closely to the curriculum used at Saudi schools, which they criticize for promoting hatred and intolerance of Jews, Christians and Shi'ite Muslims.

"Significant concerns remain



The Islamic Saudi Academy is accused of promoting hatred and intolerance.

about whether what is being taught at the ISA promotes religious intolerance and may adversely affect the interests of the United States," the report states.

The report also criticizes the school's administrative structure, saying it is little more than an offshoot of the Saudi Embassy, with the Saudi ambassador to the United States serving as chairman of the school's board of directors.

The structure "raises serious concerns about whether it is in violation of a U.S. law restricting the activities of foreign embassies," the report says.

MATTHEW BARAKAT (AP)

## RICHMOND, VA. | GOODWYN SWORN IN AS VA. JUSTICE



**ALL SMILES:** S. Bernard Goodwyn is sworn in as Virginia's newest Supreme Court justice while his mother, Dolly Goodwyn, holds a Bible in the Supreme Court chambers in Richmond, Va., on Thursday. S. Bernard Goodwyn, 46, succeeds retiring Justice Elizabeth Lacy.

## Inspectors: Greater SE Hospital Is Dangerous

Environmental conditions are so egregious at Greater Southeast Community Hospital that a survey team last week concluded patient safety was in immediate danger, triggering a preliminary denial of accreditation that could become final in December, officials said Thursday.

The assessment of the Joint Commission, a national health-

care organization, soon may grow even harsher. A group of inspectors returned this week and spent hours evaluating clinical issues at the facility; the team's report is expected by early November.

A commission spokesman would only confirm that an "immediate threat to life" prompted the change in accreditation status.

SUSAN LEVINE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

## The Lotteries

Thursday, Oct. 18

## DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	1-8-7
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	3-6-3
Mid-day DC 4	8-6-3-7
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	7-8-8-7
Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)	3-5-8-12-17
Daily 6 (Wed.)	5-17-18-24-30-32 Bonus: 11
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	4-5-7-15-17 (17)

## MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	6-5-6
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	7-5-1
Mid-day Pick 4	4-0-3-4
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	5-2-8-3
Match 5 (Wed.)	3-7-13-28-31 Bonus: 22
Lotto (Wed.)	8-12-17-24-32-35

## VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	2-8-1
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	4-7-5
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	4-4-2-8

Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	6-8-8-2
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	1-8-15-23-25
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	2-8-19-20-34
Win for Life (Wed.)	2-11-24-27-32-37

## MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	14-15-19-42-46 (37)
Power Play	4X

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

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# Kids' Medicine 'Ineffective'

## Doctors urge FDA to ban cold treatments for children under 6

WASHINGTON | Cold and cough medicines given to infants and toddlers work no better than dummy pills and can be dangerous, pediatricians seeking to curb their use told government health advisers Thursday.

The doctors told the Food and Drug Administration advisers that the over-the-counter medicines shouldn't be given to children younger than 6 because they don't help them and aren't safe. Such a prohibition would go beyond last week's drug industry move to eliminate



Pediatricians said cold medicines act essentially as placebos for kids under 6.

sales of the nonprescription drugs targeted at children under 2.

The group petitioned the FDA, seeking in part a government statement saying the medications shouldn't be used in older children as well. The expert advisers began a two-day meeting to consider the issue. The FDA has yet to act, in part pending a recommendation expected late Friday from the joint panel of outside experts in pediatrics and nonprescription drugs, said the agency's Dr. Joel Schiffenbauer.

"When a treatment is ineffective, its risks — if not zero — always will exceed its benefits," said Dr. Michael Shannon, a Children's Hospital Boston pediatrician. (AP)

## In Brief

### SAN FRANCISCO Google's Profit Exceeds Expectations, Jumps 46%

Google Inc.'s third-quarter profit soared 46 percent to hurdle the enormous expectations that have elevated the Internet search leader's stock price by more \$100 during the past month. The Mountain View, Calif.-based company said Thursday that it earned \$1.07 bil-

lion, or \$3.38 per share, for the three months ended in September, up from net income of \$733.4 million, or \$2.36 per share, at the same time last year. (AP)

### CHARLOTTE, N.C. Credit Mark Woes Grow With Bank of America Ills

Bank of America Corp.'s plunging profits shocked Wall Street Thursday and prompted a clearly frustrated Chief Executive Kenneth Lewis to hint that an exit from investment banking was possible at the nation's

second largest bank. "I've had all of the fun I can stand in investment banking at the moment," Lewis said. "So, to get bigger in it is not something I really want to do." As the last of the nation's top three banks to report results this week, Bank of America's news suggests that the problems in the credit market may yet be closer to the beginning than the end. But while Lewis blamed some of his bank's problems on those market conditions, he admitted his traders also made plenty of mistakes. (AP)

## Market Action

### New York Stock Exchange

#### Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
FairchildS	18.76	+2.16	+13.0
CallGolf	17.10	+1.83	+12.0
Anworth	6.31	+0.62	+10.9
DianaShip	38.18	+3.72	+10.8
HNI Corp	38.95	+3.07	+8.6

#### Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
IMS Hlth	23.12	-6.44	-21.8
NovaStr rs	5.95	-1.43	-19.4
PMI Grp	23.21	-3.44	-12.9
LabrRdy	18.55	-2.39	-11.4
MoneyGrm	19.98	-2.58	-11.4

### NASDAQ Stock Market

#### Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Sharplmg	2.72	+0.85	+45.5
WSI Inds	6.75	+1.58	+30.6
Fonar rs	7.32	+1.44	+24.5
Logitech	36.26	+6.77	+23.0
Iamai	1.81	+0.02	+1.1

#### Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
TriadGty	9.29	-3.28	-26.1
AviciSys	9.18	-2.02	-18.0
Neuroch g	3.62	-0.78	-17.7
NektarTh	6.67	-1.41	-17.5
IntegrBesh	3.21	-0.67	-17.3

### Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25
Fed Funds close	5.23	5.23
3-month disc	4.76	4.81
2-year	4.68	4.64
10-year	4.67	4.68
30-year	4.83	4.86

### Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.4890	.4913	.5355
Canadian Dollar	.9737	.9765	1.1363
European Euro	.6996	.7049	.7979
Japanese Yen	115.65	116.55	118.92
Mexican Peso	10.7834	10.8297	10.8438
Taiwanese Dollar	32.70	32.72	33.25

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-3.58	+6.64	-1.16
-0.03	+0.24	-0.08
13888.96	2799.31	1540.08

### Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AbtLab	51.67	+0.47	+6.1
Allergan s	65.19	-0.42	+8.9
AstraZen	52.16	+0.07	-2.6
BarrPhm	54.75	+0.07	+9.2
BrMySq	29.58	-0.25	+13.6
Cephln	71.31	-0.90	+1.3
ForestLab	37.53	+0.19	-25.8
Hospira	40.92	+0.08	+21.9
JohnJn	64.90	+0.05	-1.7
LillyEli	56.65	-0.30	+8.7
Merck	53.39	-0.03	+22.5
Pfizer	24.54	-0.01	-5.3
SchergPl	32.94	+0.69	+39.3
WarnerChil	18.30	-0.20	+32.4
Wyeth	47.76	+1.41	-6.2



**SKYWALKER:** It's a bird. It's a plane. No, it's a UFO, maybe. Area UFO enthusiasts say there's no doubt: Flying saucers exist.

## Close Encounters

**UFOlogists believe the truth is out there — really out there**

**IN SUNDAY SOURCE** | As a meeting spot for UFO enthusiasts, Logan's Roadhouse might seem a tad unlikely. But once a month or so, the back room of the bustling, busily decorated chain restaurant in Fairfax becomes the mother ship for area UFOlogists.

They gather there to snack on chicken tenders and chili, and exchange sightings and extraordinary stories in the company of like-minded people who won't think they've completely lost

their marbles.

"When I first started 20 years ago, it was a bunch of old guys with their pocket protectors, but the now the meetings are getting more diverse," organizer Sue Swiatek says.

Swiatek, a software analyst by day, is the state director of the Virginia chapter of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), a private organization that investigates and compiles data on reports of unidentified flying objects. She and her husband, Rob Swiatek, an oft-cited UFO expert, are, for lack of a better term, the first couple of Virginia UFOlogists.

On Oct. 27, they will be among

the featured speakers at "Mysteries of Space and Sky IV: Sixty Years of UFOs," a day-long conference open to the public at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold. Rob Swiatek's talk: "Sacre Bleu! UFOs Over France."

**for more ...**

**IN SUNDAY SOURCE**

We interview several UFO enthusiasts, list upcoming events on the subject and offer a more complete list of local sightings (as excerpted in this story).

**IN The Washington Post**

For UFO buffs, 2007 is a multiple anniversary year. It was 60 years ago that whatever happened in Roswell, N.M., happened. It was 60 years ago that the term "flying saucer" entered the lexicon. And it was 55 years ago that reports of UFOs flooded the Washington region.

The Washington Post ran stories with such headlines as "'Saucer' Outran Jet, Pilot Reveals" and "D.C. Girl Sees Saucer Float Under Clouds."

Of course, UFO enthusiasts are used to having their ideas about aliens and intergalactic spacecraft ridiculed. But perhaps the most insulting thing to call a UFO believer is, well, a believer.

To believe, they argue, is to imply that there is room for doubt. But, they tell you, if you study the cases, follow the facts, examine the evidence, there is no room for doubt. "We're not believers; we're concluders," says Paul Nahay of Silver Spring.

A number of UFO sightings have been reported in the Washington area over the past 60 years. Here are a few of the more interesting ones:

→ **JULY 19 AND 26, 1952:** Strange blips show up on radar screens at area airports. Reports come in of bright, unexplained lights in the Washington sky. The Air Force scrambles jets to track down the unidentified glowing objects, and the futile chase prompts front-page headlines in the New York Daily News ("JETS CHASE D.C. SKY GHOSTS") and the Washington Daily News ("AERIAL WHATZ-ITS BUZZ D.C. AGAIN!").

→ **DEC. 31, 1953:** Two Marines based at Camp Barrett, 15 miles from Quantico, report seeing a flying saucer. They immediately tell their commanders, and a Marine helicopter is dispatched to track down the object. The search proves fruitless.

→ **JULY 26, 2002:** Fifty years to the day after major UFO sightings were reported over Washington, witnesses claim to see another UFO. "It was this object, this light-blue object, traveling at a phenomenal rate of speed," Renny Rogers of Waldorf tells The Post. Two F-16 jets from Andrews Air Force Base are scrambled after radar detects the unknown craft, but military officials dismiss the idea that it was a UFO. JOE HEIM (THE WASHINGTON POST)

**5 more reasons to read**

THESE STORIES AND MORE THIS SUNDAY



### → Thai-ed Down

Looking for an interesting autumn or winter getaway? How about an elephant safari through the lush, green hills of southern Thailand? **TRAVEL**

### → A Family Affair



A behind the scenes look at "Hannah Montana," starring Miley Cyrus and her dad, Billy Ray Cyrus. **TV WEEK**

### → Rough Terrain

Nine teens usually confined behind barbed wire are sent on a risky wilderness adventure. What lessons will they learn? **THE MAGAZINE**



### → Hold the Phone

Is there any way to tell people who have to send a text message at a show that they're being rude — short of texting them? **STYLE & ARTS**

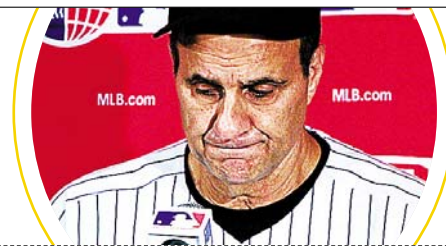
### → What Went Wrong

Several new books examine the state of the war on terror, the beginnings of radical Islam and where the U.S. went wrong in the war in Iraq. **BOOK WORLD**

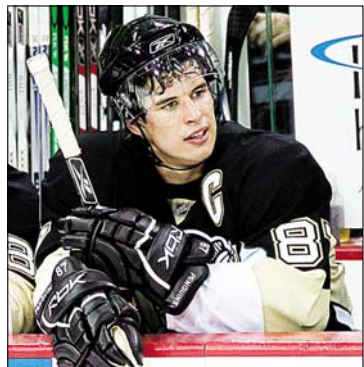
# Weekend <sup>Sports</sup>

## BASEBALL

**Out of Time:** Joe Torre won't manage the Yankees for a 13th season next year after rejecting a pay cut in a one-year contract. | 21



## TV Lineup

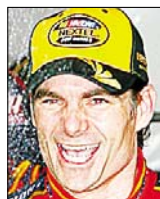


Captain Sidney Crosby brings his Penguins to D.C. for the first time this year.

→ **STARS ON ICE:** Young superstars collide at Verizon Center when Sidney Crosby and the Penguins skate into town to take on Alex Ovechkin and the Caps on Saturday (7 p.m. on Comcast).

### → RACE TO THE FINISH:

Martinsville, Va., saw some drama



Gordon

between Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson at the Subway 500 last year. With the Chase winding down, perhaps there will be more excitement on

Sunday (1:30 p.m. on ABC).

→ **MAGNIFICENT SEVEN:** The Titans and the Texans will clash in Week 7 with Tennessee QB Vince Young looking for some revenge against the team that passed on him as the first overall draft pick in 2006 (1 p.m. on CBS). Then, the Steelers will take their dynamic running game to Denver (8:15 p.m. on NBC).

→ **RACE TO THE FINISH:** No. 17 Auburn will head to Baton Rouge to face No. 4 LSU. Play it safe, and just bet on the Tigers on Saturday (9 p.m. on ESPN). Then the Terps host their neighbors to the south, Virginia, on Saturday (8 p.m. on ESPN 2).

→ **TOO MANY TIES:** D.C. United has tied its last two games. The team looks to put away the Columbus Crew in the last regular-season game of the year on Saturday (7:30 p.m. on CSN+).



**PICKUP:** Sean Taylor grabs one of two interceptions last week against Green Bay. The safety already has four picks this year.

# Inflicting Damage

Sean Taylor is focused this year and is preying on the opposing QBs

REDSKINS | Sometimes, even predators need a little help.

Sean Taylor's presence at the back of the Redskins' secondary scares even the toughest receivers.

But the Redskins' 6-foot-2 big-hitting safety was left helpless to stop the barrage of opponents' deep

and earned a trip to the Pro Bowl, but most of his big plays were made to limit damage, not inflict it.

This year, Taylor is giving the opposition plenty of reasons to cower. The Redskins' free safety has already tied his career-best with four interceptions, including two in last week's loss to Green Bay.

"[Taylor is] kind of freakish," cornerback Fred Smoot said. "You meet a safety that big that can cover that much space — the guy can go from hash to hash.

Fellow safety Pierson Prioleau credits Taylor's increased focus in the meeting room.

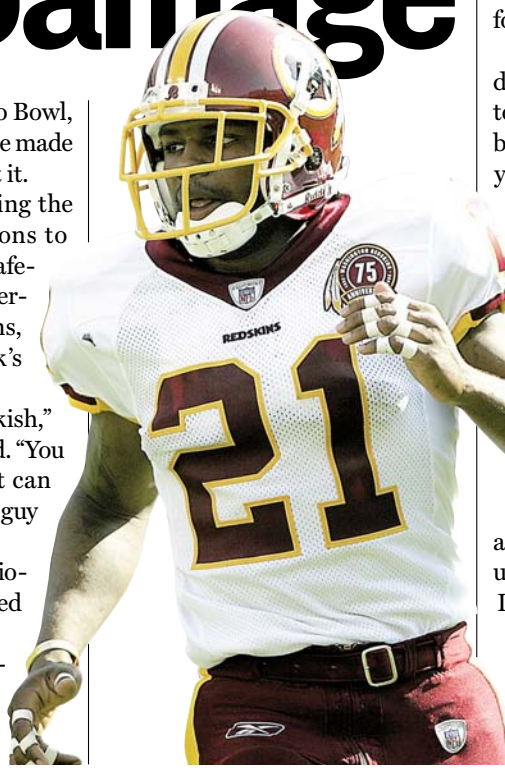
Plus, the addition of rookie safety LaRon Landry has allowed Taylor to play a more natural free-safety



1 P.M. | FOX  
Sunday



passes last season. Often the only healthy starter in the defensive backfield, Taylor made 129 tackles



JOHN MCDONNELL/TWP

## Three Burning QUESTIONS

### 1 Will the Cardinals receive Moss' redemption?

Santana Moss said he has no worries about bouncing back from last week's four-drop performance.

### 2 Who's the mystery man?

With the Cardinals' injury problems at QB, the Redskins said they'll plan for the attack, not any single player. "Whoever lines up at quarterback, so be it," London Fletcher said.

### 3 Where's the line break?

Four Redskins who've seen time on the offensive line this season sat out Wednesday's practice with injuries.

role, preying on mistimed passes and unknowing receivers who float too close to him downfield.

Safeties coach Steve Jackson predicted in July that the defense would force more interceptions this season because the secondary would be comfortable around each other.

"When you get up there and you don't know where the corner's going to be ... it's a lot different from 'I've been playing with this guy for two years now and I know exactly what he will do in this coverage,'" Jackson said.

On Sunday, the Redskins may host the Cardinals without one of those corners. Shawn

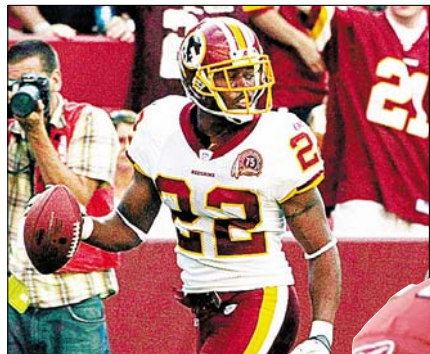
Springs has left the team to be with his father, Ron, whose health has taken a turn for the worse. Still, Arizona knows it's in for a tough time with Tim Rattay likely under center after injuries to Matt Leinart and Kurt Warner.

"[The Redskins] don't have to be bringing pressure," WR Larry Fitzgerald said. "They can sit back and play zone and make you make mistakes." ERIC BRANDNER



**BASBALL PLAYOFFS | A Curveball Back at Beckett** Before Thursday night's crucial Game 5 matchup in the ALCS, the Cleveland Indians booked country singer Danielle Peck to sing the national anthem. Red Sox ace Josh Beckett clearly had the Indians' number during game one of the ALCS, and, at one point, he had Peck's too. But the Indians claim they had no idea that Peck — who was added at the last minute after another country star, Taylor Swift, backed out — used to date the Red Sox starting pitcher, the Cleveland Plain Dealer reported. (EXPRESS)

# What to Watch For



## WHEN THE CARDINALS HAVE THE BALL:

### WR Larry Fitzgerald Vs. CB Carlos Rogers

By his standards, Fitzgerald has had a below-average season in the year's first six weeks. He's caught 40 passes for 545 yards but has just one TD catch. His numbers have gone up in the three weeks that Anquan Boldin has been injured, but Boldin completed a full practice on Wednesday and should play Sunday. Will Fitzgerald fade into the background again this week or keep up the production against a very good Redskins secondary? Washington may play without starting CB Shawn Springs, who left the team on Tuesday to be with his ailing father. But which is a bigger blow: having Fred Smoot start at cornerback or having Tim Rattay start at quarterback? IAN HERBERT (EXPRESS)



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



## WHEN THE REDSKINS HAVE THE BALL:

### C Casey Rabach vs. DT Darnell Dockett

Rabach, who strained his groin last week against the Packers, is expected to play this week. And the Redskins need him. The seven-year veteran is the quarterback of the offensive line, and not having him on the field for the second half of last week's game clearly hurt Washington. The team, which had given up just five sacks all season, allowed quarterback Jason Campbell to get sacked three times. This week,

Rabach isn't just the guy giving assignments. He'll be going up against Dockett, who is having a breakout year. He's compiled 22 total tackles and six sacks, which equals the total from his first three seasons combined. Arizona's defense is mediocre, but the team has compiled 16 sacks this year, sixth in the NFL.

## X-Factors

### → Redskins DE Phillip Daniels

Daniels has had a slow start to the season, recording just half of a sack and eight tackles. But it seems like it's only a matter of time for the 11-year pro. Andre Carter is tearing up offensive tackles on the other side of the line, and teams will eventually want to shift help his way. This week, Daniels will likely go up against rookie tackle Levi Brown, who has been injured for the past three weeks but participated in limited practice on Wednesday. If Brown can't go, it will be third-year lineman Elton Brown. Either way, Daniels could make some noise.



### → Cardinals KR Steve Breaston

The speedy rookie wide receiver probably won't catch any balls this week (he hasn't all season; why start now?), but he's always a threat on punt returns, and he already beat one team (the Steelers) with a 73-yard return in the fourth quarter. Last week, he nearly broke a couple of returns, and Arizona tried to work him into the offense with a handoff, which he took for a 10-yard gain.



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# Sports Weekend

## Sunday PICK'EM

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SPORTS COLUMNIST,  
EXPRESS

**Ian Herbert**  
SPORTS EDITOR,  
EXPRESS

**Eric Bickel**  
"EB"  
THE JUNKIES, WJFK

**JP Flaim**  
"JP"  
THE JUNKIES, WJFK



CARDINALS (PLUS 8.5) AT REDSKINS

**REDSKINS**  
As the offense struggles, the defense takes matters into its own hands by scoring.

**REDSKINS**  
Win one, lose one, win one, lose one. With the Pats next week, this one's easy.

**CARDINALS**  
Bet on the Cards and root for the Redskins. Can't lose either way!

**REDSKINS**  
The Cardinals will start either Tim Rattay or an injured Kurt Warner.



RAVENS (MINUS 3) AT BILLS

**RAVENS**  
At least Bills don't have to worry about a new Super Bowl heartbreak soon.

**RAVENS**  
The Bills had just two weeks to get over the MNF loss and teach Edwards to play QB.

**BILLS**  
The Ravens in a squeaker, so take the Bills and the points.

**RAVENS**  
The Bills' offense has scored just 65 points all year and will be overwhelmed.



COLTS (MINUS 3) AT JAGUARS

**COLTS**  
The Colts ensure Nov. 4's game against the Patriots will have two unbeaten teams.

**JAGUARS**  
The Bucs are the best team the Colts have played. This has "upset" written all over it.

**COLTS**  
A great Colts offense is better than a great Jaguars defense. Take the Colts.

**COLTS**  
Give Peyton Manning two weeks to prepare and I will always bet on him.



BEARS (PLUS 5) AT EAGLES

**EAGLES**  
Things are so bad in Chicago that the defense isn't even all that good this year.

**EAGLES**  
Before beating the Packers, the last thing Brian Griese won was the Rose Bowl.

**EAGLES**  
The Eagles stink, but the Bears are worse. Take the Eagles.

**BEARS**  
The Bears' offense has surged with Brian Griese at the helm.



BUCS (PLUS 2.5) AT LIONS

**BUCS**  
As long as Jeff Garcia stays healthy, Tampa is going to be a playoff contender.

**LIONS**  
I've heard enough about Jeff Garcia already. Lions "D," please shut them up.

**BUCS**  
Take the coach with the bowl cut — the Bucs.

**BUCS**  
The Redskins proved that the Lions were a fraud. Take Jeff Garcia and the Bucs.

**SEASON TALLY** | Matt Swenson: 14-13-4; Ian Herbert: 14-13-4; Celebs: 17-14-6; Dave Goldberg: 13-10-2; Leader: Mark Plotkin (4-1)

# A Lot on the Line

## With Groh still at the helm, surprise Cavs come to College Park

**TERPS FOOTBALL** | It wasn't long ago that all signs pointed to trouble for the Virginia Cavaliers.

What the signs said, specifically, was "Fire Al Groh." Fans carried them at the stadium or spray-painted the catchphrase on campus. Some said it more colorfully than others, but the message was clear. The head coach wasn't cutting it, and after a season-opening loss to Wyoming, a bad loss, emotions were not well hidden in Charlottesville. It seemed every Wahoo in khaki pants and an orange tie wanted the coach gone.

But that was last month.

On Saturday, the Cavaliers arrive in College Park as the Maryland Terrapins' homecoming opponent. Homecoming opponents generally are expected to show up, shut up and lose the game. In this case, however, the Cavs will be a measuring stick by which the Terrapins

### SECOND MISTAKES

**Maryland's defense has developed a knack for allowing an offense to move the ball seemingly at will in the second half.**

→ The poor second-half play cost the Terps a victory at Wake Forest, when they squandered a 17-3 lead to lose 31-28, and nearly cost them another against Georgia Tech, which scored 16 in the second half but lost 28-26. This season, the Terps have outscored opponents 59-44 before halftime but have been beaten 68-50 in the second half. "It's like we think the game's over already and then teams come back on us and make close games," safety Christian Varner said. "So, we've been trying to emphasize that, finishing on games. Finishing, finishing."

(4-2, 1-1) gauge their status within the Atlantic Coast Conference and in the nation.

No one is calling for Groh to be fired anymore. Virginia has won six straight games. When the

Bowl Championship Series rankings appeared over the weekend, the Cavaliers (6-1, 3-0 in the ACC) were not only ranked, but ranked relatively high.

"They're No. 19," Maryland senior running back Keon Lattimore said. "If we knock them off — and we've knocked off the No. 10 team [Rutgers] — I think people would definitely take notice to it."

Virginia's offense will feature inconsistent quarterback Jameel Sewell and will not feature star running back Cedric Peerman (foot injury).

The opportunity is there for the Terrapins, to crack the national rankings and to set themselves up for a run at a spot in the ACC title game.

"A lot of people doubt us," senior running back Lance Ball said. "I think we're one of the most aggressive teams out there. A lot of people don't see that or give us the credit. We just keep that circulating around the team. Even from last year, we don't get no respect."

DEREK TURNER

# FIVE

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Singer, Songwriter, and Recording Artist, Marilyn Ashford-Brown a Washington, DC Native, was surprised to discover that songs she recorded in 1984 with female trio, "Sasss," were being sold online in the United Kingdom. The songs were written and produced by Philadelphia International Record Producer/Recording Artist, Dexter Wansel and songwriter, Cynthia Biggs. Both known for such musical works with such names as: Patti LaBelle, Teddy Pendergrass, The Jones Girls and the late Phyllis Hyman. The group had been signed to London-based Virgin 10 Records. Marilyn, who for years has sought- after a major record deal, feels that this recent discovery only validates what has been known all along. "That there are thousands of successful artists who have sold millions of recordings and generated billions in profits for the recording industry...Yet find themselves broke and forgotten by companies they helped make very wealthy." To name a few, artists such as the group TLC and Toni Braxton, both forced to file for bankruptcy.

During this interview in preparation for her upcoming CD Debut Release, Marilyn would not comment on rumors of her romantic involvement with a well known celebrity. However, it is believed that the celebrity in question will make an appearance at her scheduled debut performance set for Monday, October 22, 2007 at Blues Alley, located in the heart of Georgetown. There are two shows, beginning at 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. She is very popular, as reportedly the phones haven't stopped ringing at Blues Alley. We're told this show sold out weeks ago.

Though Ashford-Brown would neither confirm nor deny rumors, she adamantly promises a great performance. As Executive Producer of her CD, she is pleased with the finished product co-produced with super, multi-talented Music Producer, Derek Wille, of Art of Music, and Norris Berry, her longtime keyboard player.

Producers Dexter Wansel and Al Johnson lent their talents on this project as well. Rudy Spruill and Roderick Johnson who have played with her for over 20 years, will accompany her along with the band, Phoenix. This is the first major work for Ash2Brown Entertainment, the company she established in 2003 to try to curb the record companies greed. She wrote ten of the twelve tracks on the CD.

Marilyn Ashford Brown brings **EXCITEMENT** and **SUBSTANCE** to the table with her powerful rendition of Earth, Wind & Fire's 1976 hit, "Can't Hide Love." The club-remix version of the song titled "Respect Me" will no doubt become the anthem, not just for women of color, but for all women of the world as it makes a profound statement by addressing the negative use of both the B and H words. According to her promoter, Bo Sampson, "Respect Me" is generating quite a buzz in area clubs.

The CD will indeed, "Rock, Pop, Hip-Hop and Jazz-matize any Musical Appetite." This very humble and unassuming lady of song has been a best kept secret and is probably the first recording artist to come out of the Nations Capital in a long time with music of this substance. Marvin Gaye would certainly be proud of her. There is also an inspirational song titled: "The Jesus In Me," inspired by the death of her husband Tim, who died in 2004 of lung cancer.

There is absolutely something for everyone to love on this CD. In promoting her CD titled: **MARILYN ASHFORD BROWN.....STILL STANDING**, she is giving away a limited number of CD's FREE when you log onto her website and register for a copy, you can listen for FREE at: [www.marilynashfordbrown.com](http://www.marilynashfordbrown.com). For Bookings information, go to website. Check her out also at [myspace.com/marilynashfordbrown](http://myspace.com/marilynashfordbrown). Purchase at: [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com) and download at iTunes. This CD will be available in stores in the coming weeks.

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# The Indians' Guide

Wedge brings a good attitude, hard work to Cleveland's clubhouse

**BASEBALL PLAYOFFS** | It was not, by any stretch of the imagination, the most enticing of job offers.

He'd be managing a team essentially being rebuilt from scratch, relying on a roster of kids from Buffalo, Akron and that baseball hotbed, Mahoning Valley. The payroll would be meager, the All-Stars were long gone, and the only big-name free agents he'd see were on other teams. The losses would be frequent and probably lopsided.

Oh, and all of this would be for a passionate fan base hardened by decades of disappointment.

A real dream job, that one. And yet Eric Wedge signed on as the Indians' manager anyway.

"I was actually excited about it," he said. "Obviously, you knew what was going to be ahead. I knew it was going to take a lot of toughness."

A former catcher who spent parts of four seasons in the majors with Boston and Colorado, Wedge isn't flashy or overbearing. He's straightforward, focused and patient, and he holds tight to the lessons he learned from his parents about the value of hard work (when Wedge was introduced as Cleveland's manager, his



It took a few years and a lot of patience, but manager Eric Wedge has helped groom an Indians team that should be a part of the baseball playoff picture for years to come.

parents missed the news conference because it was a workday).

The Indians lost 94 games in 2003, their worst season in more than a decade. Though they made a run at the top of the AL Central in '04, it was brief and they wound up finishing below .500 again.

It would have been understandable had it all worn on him, but Wedge never lost sight of the bigger picture. This was a long-term project, and developing players for

Cleveland's tomorrow was every bit as important as what the Indians were doing on the field today.

"These players have evolved and I've evolved right with them," said Wedge, who's also become a father since taking over the Indians. "You have to work off the team, it's not the other way around." NANCY ARMOUR (AP)



**Late game:** Game 5 of the ALCS ended after Express' deadline. For results | **Today's Post, Sports**

## Swengali

**BASEBALL** | BY MATT SWENSON, MATT.SWENSON@READEXPRESS.COM

### Colorado Looks Like MLB's Best

**IF YOU ARE THE** Colorado Rockies, find out exactly what the Detroit Tigers did before their layoff ahead of the World Series and then do the exact opposite.

Having won 21 of their past 22 games, the Rockies have been playing better baseball than anyone else.

What a shame it would be if the team iced up in the mile-high air waiting for the Fall Classic to start next Wednesday.

Much outcry has already been heard about the long wait Colorado has to endure. It's as if the team is being punished for playing too well, some say. Others call Major League Baseball greedy for laying out a play-off schedule that suits television's needs better than the teams'.

On the flip side, wouldn't you want a short vacation before the most important part of your work-year?

Based on the formula they used in their historic streak — including a 7-0 record in the postseason — you'd have to think the Rockies will be ready for the World Series, long wait or not.

First of all, the team's defense (only 68 errors in 6,300 chances)



Todd Helton and Troy Tulowitzki celebrate Colorado's first trip to the Series.

was the best in the history of baseball. We all remember how Detroit's defense let it down last October.

The offense should be fine, as any lineup with Matt Holliday and Todd Helton would be.

That leaves pitching, which, traditionally, is Colorado's weakest link. That's not the case this year. Rockies pitchers sported an MLB-best 3.86 ERA after the All-Star break.

These upstarts may be a surprising entry in the World Series, but they are not flukes.

The Rockies look like the best team in baseball. Eventually, we'll see whether they play like it when it matters most.

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# Weekend Sports

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To be eligible for this study, you must:

- Be between the ages of 18 and 75 years
- Have an anal fissure for at least 6 weeks prior to the study. Symptoms may include:
  - Severe pain during and after a bowel movement
  - Bleeding around the anus following a bowel movement
  - Itching around the anus

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and the investigational ointment at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel will also be provided.

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The MLS Cup is less than one month away and will be held at RFK. D.C. United, which was the league's best regular-season team, hopes to have the home-field advantage.

## United Focused On Staying Hot

In a 13-game unbeaten streak, Soehn must decide who to rest, play

**UNITED** | When visiting Colorado upset Chivas USA last weekend, ensuring that D.C. United would clinch the best regular season record, the Supporters Shield and a berth in next spring's Champions' Cup for the second straight year, Saturday's finale against Columbus was rendered meaningless — but just mathematically.

"You can say the game doesn't mean anything this weekend. Essentially, it doesn't. But it's amazing what happens when you put 11 grown men against 11 grown men," D.C.'s Ben Olsen said.

United coach Tom Soehn faces an interesting choice. The MLS playoffs begin Nov. 1, and D.C. already has played 40 matches this year across five competitions.

On the other hand, the momentum behind a 13-game league unbeaten streak may prove key on the way to the Nov. 18 MLS Cup final at RFK.

Who Soehn chooses to play on Saturday and who he chooses to rest

may wind up being just as scrutinized as in any other game.

"It's about rhythm and also about managing," Olsen said. "My mind isn't so concerned with how we do against Columbus but how we do against our next opponent. We need to continue that rhythm so when the playoffs come, we're flying."

United (16-6-7) appeared to be a tired team in each of the past two years as it was eliminated on home turf. Those losses were a subtext throughout this season, as Soehn obviously was conscious about shuffling his lineup, bringing key players out of games late and managing minutes.

Olsen said the team is on board with that system and that, whatever choice the coach makes Saturday, it will be the right one.

"I think in the last couple of years, we as an organization have learned some hard lessons. All these tournaments and things are new, and, unfortunately, we've had to learn how to manage a season that way," Olsen said. "Tommy this year has done such a great job. It's not easy because there are egos, but he's done a good job of putting the team first and looking forward."

BRIAN STRAUS

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# Change for Caps Captain

Chris Clark is happy to take one for the team at the cost of his stats

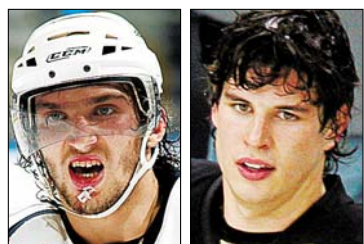
**CAPITALS** | Washington Capitals coach Glen Hanlon was clear — Chris Clark's move from the first line to the third is not a demotion. It's simply an indication of how well-rounded the veteran's game has become as he enters his second season as the Caps' captain.

If Washington breaks out of the mini-slump that followed its season-opening three-game win streak, either Thursday night against the New York Islanders or Saturday against the Pittsburgh Penguins, Clark likely will play a key role. But that role will differ from last season, when he tallied a career-high 30 goals playing on the top line with Alex Ovechkin.

Clark now plays on a "checking" line, mostly with Boyd Gordon and Matt Pettinger, and will be asked to focus on slowing down the opposition's most dangerous players rather than finishing third in the club in scoring.

After yielding a combined 94 shots in two straight losses, the

## HEAD TO HEAD



OVECHKIN

CROSBY

→ More than two days before Saturday's game, the lead on the NHL's Web site was "The Great Debate: Crosby or Ovechkin." It may be October, but these games are always filled with story lines.

One is a gifted yet reserved playmaker who has drawn comparisons to Gretzky. The other is an ebullient scorer already renowned for his spectacular goals and ferocious hits. Ovechkin, the latter, drew first blood with his rookie of the year trophy. But Crosby responded last season with an MVP award and a playoff appearance. Ahead of Thursday's game, Ovechkin had three goals and two assists through five games; Crosby had two and four.



PHILIP MACCALLUM/GETTY IMAGES

Caps will need Clark's grit more than his goals.

"It's not a drop. I think that it's a huge, important role. He plays on the power play, and I think Boyd Gordon and Matt Pettinger are good players," Hanlon said, adding that he still expected Clark to contribute on the offensive end. "You can play and score 30 goals and have 70 points and be finished ... or you can score 20 and make the playoffs. I know what he'd choose."

Clark, who did not tally a point in the first five games but was averaging nearly 18 minutes of ice time and winning two-thirds of his faceoffs, agreed that he was ready to win.

"If we're winning games, I don't care where I am. We have guys who are doing the role I had last year, and they're doing it better than me. I'm happy where I am. My whole thing was leading by example before, and I'm still going to do that," he said. BRIAN STRAUS

**Late game:** The Capitals' Thursday night game ended after Express' deadline. For results | **Today's Post, Sports**

## Torre Out As Yankees Manager

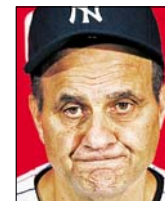
**BASEBALL** | Joe Torre is out as manager of the New York Yankees, rejecting a substantial pay cut after the team failed to make it past the first round of the playoffs for the third straight year.

Torre turned down a \$5 million, one-year contract Thursday — \$2.5 million less than he made last year.

Rather than put up with the indignity of a salary slap coupled with a performance-based contract, the man who led the Yankees to playoff appearances in all 12 years he managed, walked.

"A difficult day," general manager Brian Cashman said.

Bench coach Don Mattingly is the leading contender to replace Torre, who won four World Series championships with the Yanks but none since 2000. Yankees broadcaster Joe Girardi, the NL manager of the year with Florida in 2006, is another top contender. RONALD BLUM (AP)



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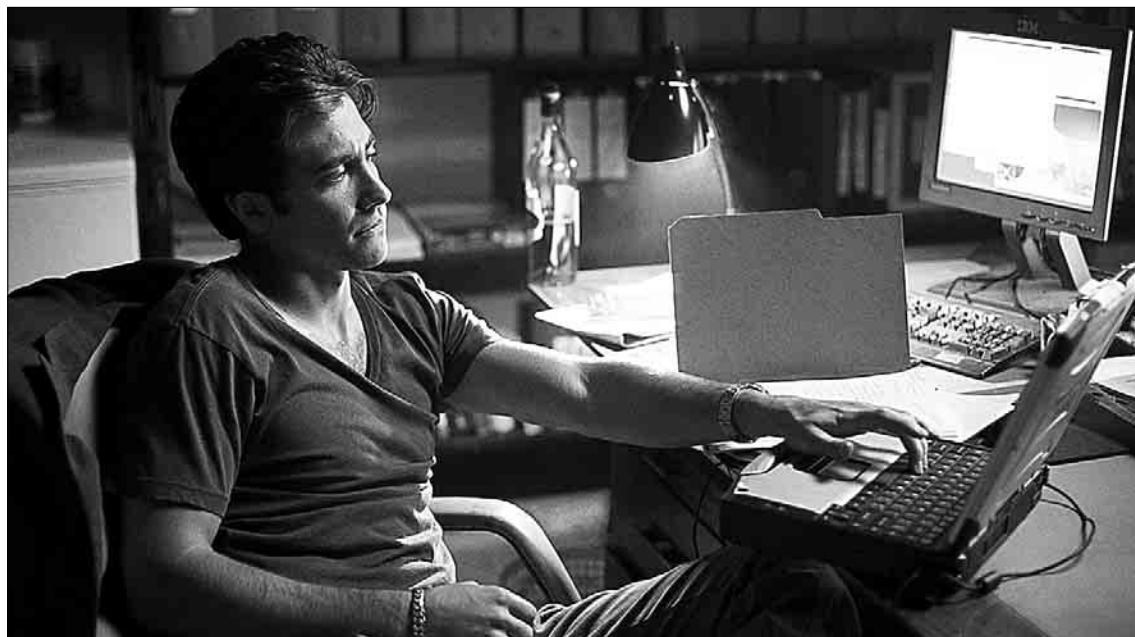


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**DRAMA ON SCREEN**

**All in the Family:** Ben Affleck directs and Casey Affleck, pictured, stars in the critically-acclaimed "Gone Baby Gone." | 24

# Entertainment Weekend



**INTELLIGENCE:** Jake Gyllenhaal plays a CIA analyst charged with monitoring a suspect's torture in "Rendition."

## Hot-Button Issue

### 'Rendition' forces the discussion of torture out into the open

**FILM** | "Rendition" focuses on the U.S. government's policy of transporting captured terror suspects to foreign countries for detention, interrogation and perhaps torture — a topic that's prime for debate and more than worthy for explo-

ration in a film.

But there's not much room for debate in director Gavin Hood's first feature since winning the foreign-language Oscar for South Africa's "Tsotsi" from 2005.

Everything is black and white here, a tremendous disservice considering the complexity of the issue. There's also an oversimplification, an insulting dumbing-down, as if the audience was incapable of inter-

preting shades of gray.

The abduction of an Egyptian-born American (Omar Metwally), suspected of helping North African terrorists plot a deadly bombing, is obviously a mistake. His pretty, pregnant wife (Reese Witherspoon, in her first role since winning an Oscar for "Walk the Line") is left to worry, understandably, but her response is reduced to little more than increasingly shrieky grief.

The CIA analyst (Jake Gyllenhaal) assigned to monitor the suspect's torture is unwavering in his disapproval; conversely, the CIA's head of terrorism (Meryl Streep), who ordered the rendition, is unflappable in her certainty.

Then, at the very end, the script from Kelley Sane takes a narrative twist that's distractingly contradictory to the realism and relevance "Rendition" had been trying to achieve all along.

Walking in, we're clearly expected to view this as a film of great importance, because of the subject matter and all the Oscar winners up there on the screen (the cast also includes Alan Arkin as a senator from the suspect's home state of Illinois who refuses to help facilitate his release). Instead, it feels like a missed opportunity, though Hood does achieve some moments of wrenching intensity.

"Rendition" begins with Metwally's chemical engineer, Anwar, flying home from a South African business conference and apparently disappearing before catching a connecting flight in Washington, D.C. That's the way it initially looks to his wife, Witherspoon's Isabella, who's waiting for him in suburban Chicago with their young son and another baby on the way.

But Witherspoon, normally so bright and engaging in both comedies and dramas, doesn't get to do much here besides beg for information and, eventually, shrilly, explode. **CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)**

## Got Plans?

FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE [WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT](http://WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT)

**Are there any must-see exhibits you would recommend? How are the Annie Leibovitz and Ansel Adams exhibits at the Corcoran being received?**

Go to the Corcoran! Those exhibits are worth the money! I also love the Edward Hopper exhibit at the National Gallery. It's been busy, but it's worth it.

→ *Corcoran Gallery of Art, 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700. (Farragut North)*

→ *National Gallery of Art, 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-737-4215. (Smithsonian)*



Annie Leibovitz's photo of Mikhail Baryshnikov and Robert Besserer.

**My birthday is today and my roommate and I would like to go out after work for a good happy hour near Farragut West.**

While Lotus is best known as a place to party after dark, it has a pretty happening happy hour, too: \$5 beers and wines, half-price martinis, \$5 sushi rolls and dumplings. The decor is definitely a step up from Bottom Line, Madhatter, etc. The music can be a little loud, but it's worked well when I've been there.

→ *Lotus Lounge, 1420 K St. NW; 202-289-4222. (McPherson Square)*

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | [WASHINGTONPOST.COM/liveonline](http://WASHINGTONPOST.COM/liveonline)

## Freaks Come Out at Night

### Fiesty vampires capitalize on darkness in '30 Days of Night'

**FILM** | With the very cool idea behind the graphic novel "30 Days of Night" — vampires tramping up to Barrow, Alaska, for a monthlong feeding frenzy during winter's prolonged darkness — it was virtually assured that Hollywood would turn it into a movie.

Yet while the flick is a huge cut

above most of the gore fests passing themselves off as scary movies today, the premise and its repetitive gimmicks gradually grow as monotonous as, well, 30 days of night.

You can see only so many snarling hissy fits by vampires with perpetually bloody chins before they start looking less like monsters and more like ill-tempered circus clowns.

With a crisp setup to establish that it's the eve of Barrow's long night, when the sun will set and not rise again for 30 days, direc-



Josh Hartnett nails the "petrified" look in the film "30 Days of Night."

tor David Slade propels the audience into a bout of frenetic and frightening action.

The vamps cut power and phone lines and massacre packs of sled dogs as they remove all obstacles.

Then they start munching on human necks with an animal ferocity. Slade fashions some memorably graphic artistic images, among them shots showing the snowy streets stained with blood, like splotches on a Jackson Pollock canvas. **DAVID GERMAIN (AP)**



TIES THAT BIND: Benicio del Toro and Halle Berry in "Things We Lost in the Fire."

# A Heartfelt Study of Loss

**Susanne Bier's film is a layered look at the mourning process**

FILM | Danish director Susanne Bier brings a stripped-down, Dogma sensibility to "Things We Lost in the Fire," which could have been an overwrought story of loss and redemption but in Bier's hands has powerful revelations.

Strong performances from Halle Berry and Benicio Del Toro also elevate the script from Allan Loeb, which has its share of unbelievable elements. Bier, in her American debut, mostly keeps things simple and intimate, though, by using handheld cameras, extreme close-ups and flooding the proceedings with spare, natural light.

The visual approach heightens the raw purity of emotion that Berry exudes as Audrey Burke, a wife and mother of two whose husband, Brian (David Duchovny), is sucked into a violent confrontation one night and shot to death. Loeb's script, which skips around in time, shows us what their life was like, as well as the moment Brian is senselessly killed. In every instance, he seems too good to be true.

One of these examples is his bond with Jerry Sunborne (Del Toro), an

on-again, off-again heroin addict he'd been close friends with since childhood. The relationship had angered Audrey, who believed Jerry was taking advantage of her husband's loyalty and kindness.

Nevertheless, as she grieves, she finds herself seeking Jerry out and asking him to move into the incredibly cool, modern Seattle home she shares with her daughter, Harper (Alexis Llewellyn), and son, Dory (Micha Berry, no relation to Halle). She and the kids need someone around, she reasons; he needs to get clean. The hesitantly tender way they regard each other at Brian's funeral suggests that, through their shared loss, maybe they're both ready to start over and look out for each other.

Del Toro makes surprising, realistic choices in every film ("Traffic," "21 Grams"), and that's true here, as well. He's convincingly damaged — you can see it in his face, the hunched-over way he carries himself — and his awkwardness as he tries to establish a healthy new life is unexpectedly endearing. One aspect of "Things" that really rings true is its depiction of addiction and recovery — that it's usually not an easy, straight line but rather a challenging series of peaks and valleys.

CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)



# New Direction

**'Gone Baby Gone' proves Ben Affleck has found his calling**

FILM | In his directing debut, "Gone Baby Gone," Ben Affleck has found his calling, an avenue for using his obvious intelligence while getting out of the way of his own celebrity. Co-writing the script with longtime friend Aaron Stockard, Affleck presents a place oozing with atmosphere and rich, complicated characters. He has enough confidence in himself (and in us) never to go for the safe, easy answer.

The film is based on the child-abduction novel by Dennis Lehane, author of "Mystic River." "Gone Baby Gone" is set on the rough streets south of Boston. Much has been written about Affleck's decision to populate the background of this gritty crime drama with authentic locals; he even gave several of them speaking parts during crucial scenes in run-down bars. It was a bold move that paid off big-time. You feel as if you've been immersed in an insular neighborhood, where your block is your entire world and secrecy is a critical trait.

Affleck never sugarcoats or overdramatizes the surroundings, instead establishing a mood that's fraught with danger, suspicion and



RISING TO THE TOP: Casey Affleck gives a stellar performance in "Gone Baby Gone."

dark discoveries around every corner. It's depressing and bleak, but also excitingly alive and real.

Private investigators Patrick Kenzie (Casey Affleck, Ben's younger brother) and Angie Genarro (Michelle Monaghan), partners in work and love, are hired by the family of abducted 4-year-old girl Amanda McCready. The relatives figure that no one in the neighborhood wants to tell police if they saw or heard something, but they'll talk to a local guy they know.

Patrick and Angie persuade the chief of the Crimes Against Children department (Morgan Freeman) to let them tag along with the detectives assigned to the case.

That pervasive sense of moral ambiguity is one of the strongest elements of "Gone Baby Gone," and it will keep you thinking and talking about the film long after it's over. This much is indisputable, though: Ben Affleck is a director who surely has more great things in

STORE. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)



# Recurring Nightmare

**The ghoulish favorite from Tim Burton rings in the season**

GHOSTS | As All Hallow's Eve approaches, Disney presents the perfect way to ramp up the anticipation. You guessed it: by visiting Jack Skellington and his creepy crew in Halloween town. The 1993 Academy Award-nominated film "Tim Burton's the Nightmare Before Christmas" is being re-released this weekend for the season of spook. And even better, this time around, it's in three



Jack Skellington sings his nonexistent heart out on Moonlight Hill.

devilish dimensions.

Directed by Henry Selick, the animated favorite chronicles the adventures of the lovable, skeletal Jack as

he and his ghost dog, Zero, wander gloomily through their hometown of cobwebs and ghouls, wondering if there is more to life (death?) than Halloween. When he finds a doorway that leads him to Christmas town, Jack discovers a culture of sugar plums and carolers that leaves him jealously dissatisfied. What ensues is a love story, a Santa Claus kidnapping and impersonation, spontaneous singing and chubby demons grasping candy canes. With its new 3-D look, there is no doubt that "Nightmare" will be as wickedly amusing as ever.

KARMAH ELMUSA (EXPRESS)

## Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

### FRIDAY

9th Wonder may have parted ways with Little Brother, but he's still keeping busy: He's selling beats, just dropped his Dream Merchant album and has kept up his collegiate teaching career. Mostly, though, it seems his heart is mainly invested in his True School movement, a traveling series of parties that concentrates all of the nostalgia most beloved by Gen-X hip-hopers, from the "House Party" movies to "Do the Right Thing,"

New Jack Swing dance jams and golden-era hip-hop hits heavy on the Native Tongues. If you're part of the 28-and-up crew, you'll delight to quick-mixed medleys served up by 9th and his partner Cuzzin B that can go from an After 7 record to Def Jef to Soul II Soul back to Monie Love. Erykah Badu joins tonight's special edition of the True School House Party as the crew takes over **BOHEMIAN CAVERNS** for a less gaudy option during HU Homecoming madness. You might want to practice your "Roger Rabbit" and "running man" moves.

### SATURDAY

Producer, poet and DJ Ian Friday launched Tea Party Music last year with Byron Moore's "Life Starts Today," a transcendent gem that instantly took its place among



SHAWN BALDWIN/AP

**BADUISM:** Erykah hosts True School House Party as part of HU's homecoming.

peak-time dancefloor burners. With its sensuous Latin shuffle, lilting synth melodies and soaring chorus, "Life Starts Today" is one of the biggest house records of the past year. Tea Party shows

no signs of slowing down, as the talent on its roster features many of the budding stars that Friday featured at his open mic events. Friday is the guest of Rebirth on Saturday, the weekly event at **MIR-**

**RORS** that consistently brings the best soulful house DJs in the game to Washington.

### SUNDAY

Air guitar is awesome. There, we said it. If you think you've got what it takes — and, seriously, check out the videos at [usaairguitar.com](http://usaairguitar.com) — then you should enter the D.C. Air Guitar Championships tonight at **DC9**. Pick one minute of any punk or glam rock song recorded between 1970 and 1985, work up a routine and get on stage. (If only it were that simple.) Sign up at [dcairguitar.com](http://dcairguitar.com). If you just want to watch, the doors open at 8 p.m. and there's a \$5 cover.

 An extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" is always available at [www.washingtonpost.com/cityguide](http://www.washingtonpost.com/cityguide)

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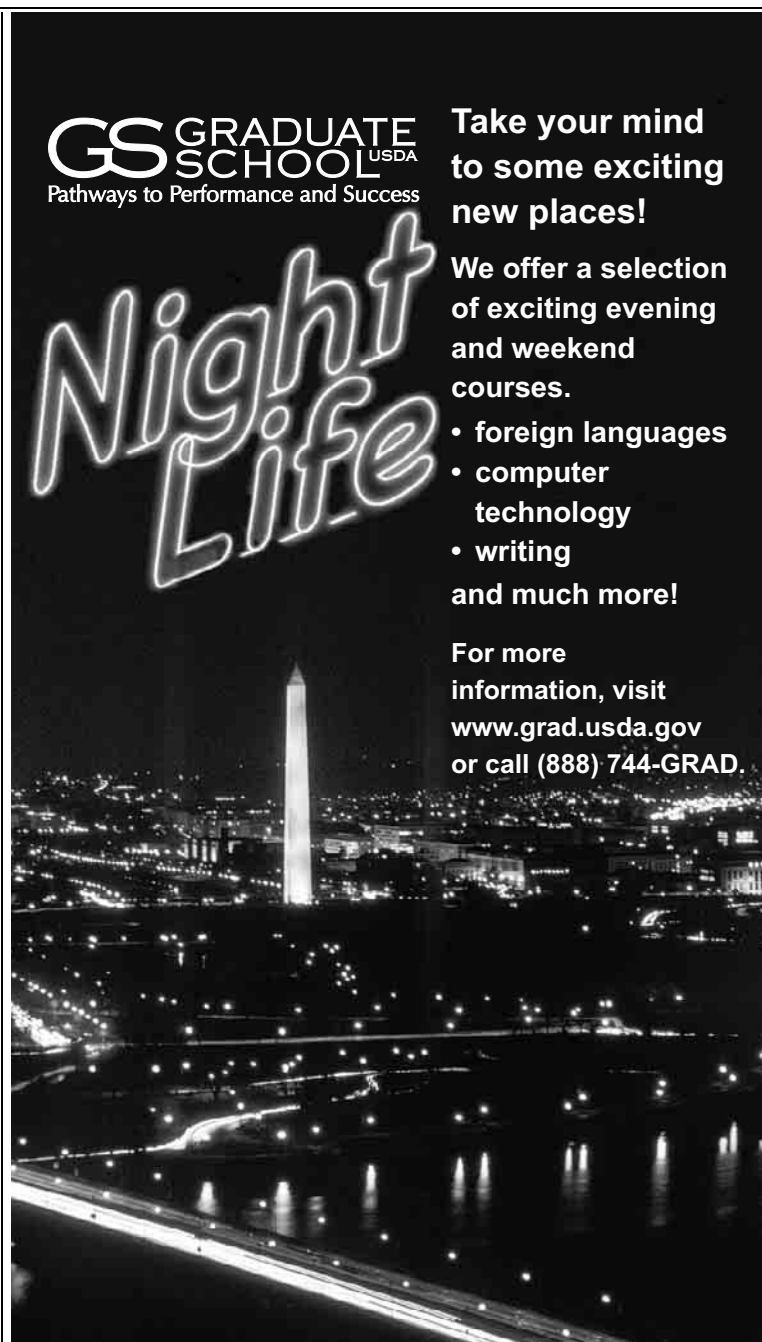
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# Weekend Entertainment

## Now Playing

**ACROSS THE UNIVERSE** (PG-13, 133 minutes) In this movie, Julie Taymor — the creative genius behind Broadway's "The Lion King," the visionary director of "Frida" and "Titus" — has shoe-horned, contorted and otherwise bullied some of the Beatles' greatest hits into a vapid Hollywood musical; it's the kind of project that must have looked great

on paper, but on-screen, not so much. Evan Rachel Wood plays Lucy, an innocent high school kid in the early 1960s; Jim Sturgess plays Jude, a Liverpool lad who has just arrived in America and has befriended Lucy's brother, Max (Joe Anderson). They three friends wind up in Greenwich Village at the height of the era's cultural and political upheaval, occasionally breaking into song. (AH)

**THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD** (R, 160 minutes) This film opens late in Jesse's days as he prepares for a big train job. The Jesse we find lounging in the thin Missouri woods has, like many a gunman, good or bad, in his dotage (he's a weary



**HANDYMAN:** George Clooney is a "fixer" at a law firm in "Michael Clayton."

WARNER BROS.

34!) become extremely paranoid. As this old and twisted Jesse, Brad Pitt is quite good, even if it seems more like a selection of ticks and mannerisms than a performance. But the movie really belongs to Casey Affleck as Robert Ford. Affleck has a gift for playing mealy mouthed marginals. It turns out Bob is sort of a groupie, a Jesse worshiper. But like any star-worshiper, he learns his idol is human and that he can never become such a man; this inevitably turns such a fellow against his god, and so it is Bob begins secret negotiations with the authorities to bring down the big guy. That's when the film is at its best, that last slide toward the fatal shot before which, for a time, Jesse and

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Scott Mantz, ACCESS HOLLYWOOD



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## Now Playing

Bob try to read each other's minds and figure out what the other knows. (SH)

**THE DARJEELING LIMITED** (R, 91 minutes) Writer-director Wes Anderson has carved out a niche as American cinema's most eccentric, lyrical poet of family dysfunction. He's at it again in this film about three brothers searching for spiritual meaning in India. Jason Schwartzman, Adrien Brody and Owen Wilson play Jack, Peter and Francis Whitman, respectively, who haven't seen one another since their father's funeral a year earlier. Francis has organized a train trip through India to re-bond. Against the extravagant backdrop of India's deeply saturated palette and densely woven textures, the Whitmans try to find themselves—and one another—in a series of alternately wry and wrenching encounters. The movie isn't deep; its fey humor and obvious metaphors will surely provide ample fodder for Anderson's detractors. But it has its charms, chief of which is watching three terrific actors evince with unforced ease the rewards and resentments of brotherhood. (AH)

**ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE** (PG-13, 114 minutes) This sequel overdresses and ultimately abandons what drew us to its 1998 predecessor in the first place: an intimate embrace with history. We are left choking in the billows and folds of Queen Elizabeth I's fabulous finery without a single insight into the woman among them, let alone the most celebrated period in English history. Where "Elizabeth" powerfully evoked the interior struggle of a woman (Cate Blanchett) determined to save herself and England from the shackles of Catholic rule, this film externalizes her maturation into the country's most beloved monarch. It seems Elizabeth's reign wasn't so much about resolving matters of the heart (she has a quasi-romance with Sir Walter Raleigh, played by Clive Owen), maintaining the love of her people, dealing with her scheming cousin Mary Queen of Scots and defeating the Spanish Armada, so much as wearing the right costume for the right event. (DT)

**THE FINAL SEASON** (PG, 113 minutes) Star and executive producer Sean Astin must have hoped for another "Rudy" with this based-on-a-true-story sports picture, but the movie is actually an impassioned plea against school consolidation. The high school baseball team in Norway, Iowa, has won state championships for decades, despite its tiny size. The coaches are legends, and the players are heroes. Kent Stock (Astin) accepts



**OVER-COSTUMED DRAMA:** "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," starring Cate Blanchett, has a lot of pretty clothes and little else.

a short-term assistant job there just so that he can work with Coach Jim Van Scoyoc (Powers Boothe). But even as these two become friends and lead the kids to the playoffs in 1990, evil administrators and tax-cutters plot to merge Norway High with a larger neighboring school and to get rid of coach Van Scoyoc. Meanwhile in Chicago, troubled Mitch (Michael Angarano, a ringer for Shia LaBeouf) is being a rebellious teenager, so his dad (Tom Arnold) ships him off to the grandparents in Norway. Throw in Rachael Leigh Cook as a state government worker reluctantly helping the nasty consolidators, and anyone who has seen a sports movie in the past 10 years can fill in the rest. **MIKE MAYO**

**THE GAME PLAN** (PG, 110 minutes) This movie, featuring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson as star quarterback Joe Kingman, follows familiar formulas and

*Continued on page 28*

“★★★★”  
**“MICHAEL CLAYTON” BRISTLES WITH FIERCE INTENSITY.**  
 Claudia Puig, USA TODAY

**“A GRIPPING thriller.”**  
 David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

**“‘Michael Clayton’ completely COMES ALIVE on screen.”**  
 Kenneth Turan, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**“INTELLIGENT and absorbing; it entertains without shame.”**  
 Manohla Dargis, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**“HALLELUJAH, and hire a babysitter! It's grown-up time again at the movies.”**  
 Ann Hornaday, THE WASHINGTON POST

**“Clooney is HAUNTINGLY BRILLIANT. It's a bone-deep performance that raises the bar.”**  
 Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

**“A smart thriller that sets your HEART PUMPING and your mind racing.”**  
 Leah Rozen, PEOPLE MAGAZINE

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GLENN WHIPP, Daily News

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# Entertainment **Weekend**

## Now Playing

vived a year of combat in Iraq and returned with his unit to Fort Rudd, N.M., has disappeared. It doesn't feel right to Hank, and so off he goes across the Southwest to the fort where his son was last seen. Along the way he bonds with a young civilian police detective, Emily Sanders (Charlize Theron), and when he can't convince the military authorities that something is amiss, he goes to her to push the investigation forward. The movie works best as what might be called a human-scale thriller, but it misses the mark. Like many of the current antiwar films, this movie strives to lay the crime it uncovers at the feet of a government that would send 200,000 boys off to a certain place at a certain time to do violence in the name of certain principles. But the crime it uncovers is generic. (SH)

**INTO THE WILD** (R, 140 minutes) Sean Penn sings a powerful and poetic hymn to America with his sweeping, sensitive and deeply affecting adaptation of Jon Krakauer's best-selling book. Penn, who wrote and directed the screen version, has preserved the book's most iconic, even mystical, values while carefully whittling away Krakauer's multi-layered narrative to focus on its confounding protagonist: Chris McCandless, the 23-year-old who embarked on a 113-day sojourn in the Alaska backcountry that ended in his death. Emile Hirsch plays McCandless, putting himself through the kind of punishing physical challenges and transformations Robert De Niro has made famous. The film is far more than the story of an idealistic, doomed young man and instead turns into a portrait of an alternative America, that scruffy, feisty frontier populated by outlaws and vagabonds and spiritual seekers. It's a big, beautiful picture, all the more so for inviting everyone, regardless of political position or philosophical bent, to see themselves. (AH)

**IRA & ABBY** (R, 105 minutes) On paper, this movie looks too cute by half: The titular couple meet at a Manhattan gym, spend all day together talking and decide to get married. Then the trouble begins, as the besotted couple is forced to deal with in-laws, exes and all that other heavy emotional lifting known as baggage. It's all too zany and madcap and Woody Allen-redux to be remotely credible, but it turns out to be witty and winning, in large part because of its cast. Jennifer Westfeldt acquits herself well, lending Abby enough daffy warmth to keep us caring. Chris Messina, as whiny pain-in-the-tush Ira, resembles a cross between



GEORGE KRANCHYK

GUESS WHAT'S COMING TO DINNER

## Mannequin 3

**"LARS AND THE REAL GIRL"** is the darndest thing. Starring Ryan Gosling as the romantically challenged Lars, this is a film whose daring and delicate blend of apparent irreconcilables will sweep you off your feet if you're not careful. For what screenwriter Nancy Oliver, director Craig Gillespie and a top cast have done is construct a Frank Capra-style fable, a throwback tribute to the joys of friendship and community, around a sex toy. Taking one of the most salacious items modern culture can provide as their centerpiece, they've created the sweetest, most innocent, most completely enjoyable film around. The creators of this film were fiercely determined not to go so much as a millimeter over the line into sentiment, tawdriness or mockery. It's the rare film that is the best possible version of itself, but "Lars" fits that bill. KENNETH TURAN (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

Mark Ruffalo and Adam Goldberg, which equals pretty cute. What sells it, though, is a supporting cast of fabulous players, from Judith Light and Robert Klein as Ira's acerbic analyst parents to Frances Conroy and Fred Willard as Abby's nutty show-people family. (AH)

**THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB** (PG-13, 106 minutes) Based on Karen Joy Fowler's novel of the same title, this movie follows five women (and a man one of them drags along) as they make their way through Jane Austen's six novels, their own lives taking on resemblances to the author's heady plots. Kathy Baker, Amy Brenneman and Maggie Grace are each terrific in their respective roles, but it's Maria Bello and Emily Blunt who steal the show. Everyone is given their due and dignity in this funny, sexy, humanist film that, if it is a chick flick, gives the genre a good name. (AH)

**THE KINGDOM** (R, 111 minutes) One electrifying performance becomes the only saving grace of this goofy action

movie that tries to marry the blitzkrieg entertainment of "Rambo" to the cultural consciousness of "Syriana." That acting turn comes from Middle Eastern actor Ashraf Barhom, who plays a sympathetic Saudi Arabian police officer caught between two incompatible cultures. When a terrorist bombing takes the lives of 200 American oil workers, their families and Saudi locals at an American compound in his country, he is forced to babysit four American FBI agents—played by Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Garner, Chris Cooper and Jason Bateman—who have come over to investigate. As Col. Faris Al Ghazi (Barhom) and the Americans chafe in their observational corners, they hit upon a plan to outwit the royals and take charge of the case. Barhom, as Faris, is 100 percent seduction, but what reaches us most powerfully is his spiritual intensity, as he negotiates a politically impossible situation—and one nutty film. (DT)

Continued on page 30

*Rolling Stone*

"ANG LEE'S POTENTLY EROTIC AND SUSPENSEFUL 'LUST, CAUTION' CASTS A SPELL YOU WON'T WANT TO BREAK!"

Tony Leung goes places he's never been before as an actor. Newcomer Tang Wei gives a performance that will be talked about for years. Ang Lee is a true master."

—Peter Travers

*Los Angeles Times*  
"LUST, CAUTION' GETS UNDER YOUR SKIN."

Tony Leung is excellent. The film's breakout performance is by Tang Wei, who brings a shocking intensity and a remarkable range of emotions to the table. Intense, psychologically intricate."

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*The Washington Times*

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Tang Wei is an astonishing find. Tony Leung has taken his talent to the next level."

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# Weekend Entertainment

## Now Playing

Continued from page 29

**LUST, CAUTION** (NC-17, 158 minutes)  
This film by director Ang Lee is set in Japanese-occupied Shanghai of the 1940s. Mr. Yee (Tony Leung) is the debonair but ruthless head of security for the collaborative Chinese government, and Wong Chia Chi (Tang Wei) is a revolutionary student who has drawn the short straw in her circle to seduce and lure him into a deadly trap. Their illicit romance becomes the central focus of this powerfully uncompromising film, which oper-



**BLACK SHEEP:** Joaquin Phoenix plays a criminal among cops in "We Own the Night."

ates on the same principle that distinguishes all lasting romances. It isn't just the allure of love, or the celebrities in the cast or the physical attributes of the performers that ultimately compels audiences. It's what they're up against as they pursue that love. In a world where survival overrides all other virtues, their perverse attraction becomes a sort of mutual moral compass — the ultimate union that any love is about. (D)

**MICHAEL CLAYTON** (R, 119 minutes)  
From its hushed opening sequences in a Manhattan law office late at night to its sleek, pared-down narrative style, this uncommonly intelligent thriller evokes the great films of the 1970s that managed

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Bill Bregoli, WESTWOOD ONE



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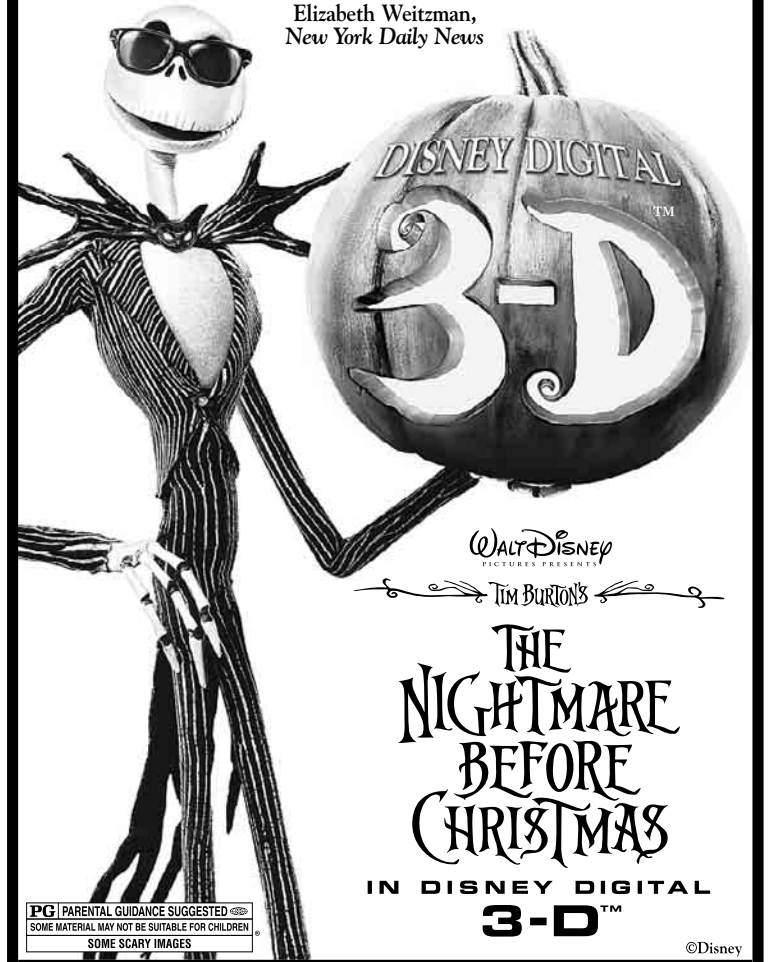
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(Fri-Sat 11:30 PM)  
FAIRFAX AMC Tysons Corner 16  
(Fri-Sun 10:50am), 12:30, 2:35, 4:55, 7:05,  
9:10, (Fri, Sat 11:50pm)  
FAIRFAX Nat'l Amusements  
Farrar Corner 14 Cinemas De Lux  
12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15  
(Fri-Sat 11:30 PM)

**MANASSAS** Regal Manassas Stadium 14  
1:00, 3:00, 5:30, 7:20, 9:20 PM  
STERLING Regal Cinemas  
Countrywide Stadium 20  
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50 PM  
WOODBRIDGE  
AMC Potomac Mills 18  
(Fri-Sat 11:20) 1:40, 3:50, 5:55,  
8:05, 10:15 PM  
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# Entertainment **Weekend**

## Now Playing

to elicit gritty urban realism while maintaining a suave sense of style and moral complexity. George Clooney plays the title character, a "fixer" at a white shoe law firm, who finds himself enmeshed in a web of corporate intrigue, personal financial straits, madness and murder. Clooney does his best to suppress his blinding wattage, the better for his superb supporting cast to shine: Tilda Swinton is mesmerizing as the personification of female ambition and ambivalence; Sydney Pollack utterly inhabits Clayton's ethically slippery boss; and Tom Wilkinson delivers note-perfect spoken arias of a manic-depressive who has gone off his meds. The movie marks a return to the screen of intelligence, taste and class. Hallelujah, and hire the baby sitter: It's grown-up time again at the movies. (AH)

**MILAREPA: MAGICIAN, MURDERER, SAINT** (PG, 90 minutes) This picturesque fable filmed in the mountains of northern India shows us how most — if not all — roads to spiritual enlightenment are paved with suffering. Set in the 11th century, this Tibetan film retells the story of Thopaga, an impoverished villager who would eventually become the enlightened Milarepa, one of Tibet's most



**AMERICAN FOLKLORE:** Brad Pitt as seen in "The Assassination of Jesse James."

revered saints. But his path to bliss followed a traumatic chapter marked with tragedy, injustice, vengeful sorcery and the destruction of his village. First-time director Neten Chokling combines old-time lore with modest special effects to

evoke this otherworldly story. But what really reaches us is the collective presence of the cast, most of them monks and other acting amateurs. They seem uniformly imbued with inherent grace and

*Continued on page 34*



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Gallery Place Stadium 14

**GEORGETOWN**  
AMC Loews Georgetown 14

**MARYLAND**  
**BETHESDA**  
AMC Loews White Flint 5

**BETHESDA**  
Regal Cinemas Bethesda 10

**BOWIE** Regal Cinemas  
Bowie Stadium 14

**BELTSVILLE**  
AMC Loews Center Park 8

**COLUMBIA**  
AMC Columbia 14

**GAITHERSBURG**  
Kentlands Stadium 10

**GAITHERSBURG**  
AMC Loews Rio 18

**GERMANTOWN** Regal  
Germantown Stadium 14

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**HANOVER**  
Muvico Egyptian 24

**HYATTSVILLE**  
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**LARGO** AMC  
Magic Johnson  
Capital Centre 12

**ROCKVILLE**  
Regal Cinemas  
Rockville Stadium 13

**SILVER SPRING**  
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**WALDORF** AMC Loews  
St. Charles Towne Ctr. 9

**WHEATON** P&G  
Wheaton Plaza 11

**VIRGINIA**  
**ALEXANDRIA**  
AMC Hoffman Center 22

**ALEXANDRIA**  
Consolidated  
Kingstowne 16

**ALEXANDRIA** Regal  
Potomac Yard Stadium 16

**ARLINGTON**  
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Commons Stadium 12

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Nat'l Amusements Fairfax  
Corner 14; Cinemas De Lux

**HERNDON** Phoenix  
Theatres Worldgate 9

**MANASSAS** Regal  
Manassas Stadium 14

**MERRIFIELD**  
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Arlington Blvd/Lee Hwy  
Multiplex Cinemas

**RESTON**  
Nat'l Amusements  
Reston Town Center  
Multiplex Cinemas

**SPRINGFIELD**  
AMC Springfield Mall 10

**STERLING**  
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AMC Potomac Mills 18

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## Now Playing

Continued from page 31

effortless spiritual bearing. And their smallest of gestures exude the kind of un-self-conscious gravitas that constitutes all fables. (DT)

**TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED?** (PG-13, 113 minutes) Five 30-something African-American couples deal with a host of domestic problems in writer-director-producer-star Tyler Perry's adaptation of his play. Too much work, too little work, children, the lack of children, sexually transmitted diseases, the lack of sex, alcohol and infidelity are the main issues. Talk is plentiful; action is not. An attractive ensemble brings conviction to the sometimes-weepee proceedings. As usual, Perry comes down solidly on the side of conventional morality and stable monogamous relationships. (MM)

**WE OWN THE NIGHT** (R, 117 minutes) For people deeply into movies, the prospect of Mark Wahlberg and Joaquin Phoenix teaming up in a James Gray picture sends little goose bumps up their spines. In this movie, Gray has cast the actors as brothers living in Brooklyn in the 1980s on conflicting sides of the escalating drug wars. Bobby (Phoenix) is a high-living club manager with a hot, equally party-hearty girl-



**BROTHERLY LOVE:** Adrien Brody, Jason Schwartzman and Owen Wilson are the endearingly quirky brothers Whitman in "The Darjeeling Limited."

friend (Eva Mendes). Meanwhile, straight-arrow Joseph (Wahlberg) has gone on the job, joining their dad (Robert Duvall) on the city police force. As a case Joseph is working on, involving the Russian mob, strikes closer to home for Bobby, years of estrangement between the men come to a head, in brutal and finally surprising encounters. Gray clearly knows his way around genre, in this case a cop thriller

with generous helpings of melodrama, but the movie never catches fire, even literally in an improbable but visually stunning climax set in a burning field. (AH)



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**WHEN THEY'RE NOT PUMPING IRON, THEY'RE ...** Bravo will soon air documentaries about the trainers from Sky Sport and Spa on "Workout: A Day in the Life." The series continues to follow the cast from "Work Out," the Bravo original.

# Television

## ON TV THIS WEEKEND

## FALSE IDOLS

Over three two-hour episodes, **THE NEXT GREAT AMERICAN BAND** (8 p.m., Fox, Fri.) hopes to do for musical ensembles what "Idol" has done for individual talents. It's a tall order, and from the looks of the highlight reel made available for review, the show seems as much about novelty acts as real musicians.

## TALES FROM THE BOY BAND

Scheduled on **20/20** (8 p.m., ABC, Fri.):  
an interview with Lance Bass.

## THE STOVE'S AFRAID, TOO!

A tough dog has an obsessive fear of a stove on **DOG WHISPERER** (8 p.m., National Geographic, Fri.).

## FARAWAY FRIGHTS

**MOST HAUNTED LIVE** (9 p.m., Travel, Fri.) host Yvette Fielding and medium

David Wells will spend seven hours in the Winchester House, a Victorian-era mansion in San Jose, Calif., that once belonged to an heiress to the Winchester rifle fortune.

## EWWWW

Sheppard becomes host to an alien infection on **STARGATE: ATLANTIS** (10 p.m., Sci Fi, Fri.).



**WHO?** Worn out and unknown artists host “The Next Great American Band.”

## TRY WHOLE FOODS

Marin gets lost while hunting down an exotic natural ingredient on **MEN IN TREES** (10 p.m., ABC, Fri.).

## UP TO THE B-LIST?

No “star” is more deserving or desirous of a **TRUE HOLLYWOOD STORY** (6 p.m., E!, Sat.) profile than Kathy Griffin. She gratefully acknowledges the honor, cackling, “And I haven’t even killed anybody yet.”

## ANIMAL INSTINCT

A camera crew follows migratory birds for thousands of miles in the 2001 documentary **WINGED MIGRATION** (7 p.m., Animal Planet, Sat.).

## UNEXPECTED WINNER

An alien allows Toshiko to hear others' thoughts on **TORCHWOOD** (9 p.m., BBC America, Sat.). This is the most popular show in the history of the network.

## REFINED YOUNG WOMAN

**THE GRAHAM NORTON SHOW** (10 p.m., BBC

America, Sat.) enters a second season with guest Courtney Love.

## KANYE. ROUND 2

LeBron James hosts **SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE** (11:30 p.m., NBC, Sat.), featuring musical guest Kanye West. Repeats already?

**SHE WAS IN THE CIA!!!!!!**

Scheduled on **60 MINUTES** (7 p.m., CBS, Sun.): an interview with Valerie Plame; forest fires and global warming; Guantanamo Bay.

EXTRAORDINARY

**INCREDIBLE HUMAN MACHINE** (9 p.m., National Geographic, Sun.) explores an ordinary day of 10,000 eye blinks.

## PAINFUL MESSAGE

A less-than-relaxing spa weekend on **BROTHERS & SISTERS** (10 p.m., ABC, Sun.).

# SUPER MARIO

A rapper helps his mother confront her addiction in the documentary **I WON'T LOVE**



**SELF-DEPRECATION:** Gets you an “E! True Hollywood Story,” apparently.

**YOU TO DEATH: THE STORY OF MARIO AND HIS MOM** (10 p.m., MTV, Sun.).

PRETTY GOOD

A gadget malfunction brings a marital meltdown on **CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM** (10 p.m., HBO, Sun.). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

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**Landscaping - Driver/Installer** needed for Interior/Exterior Landscaping co. Call 301-470-3343

**Legal Secretary TRADEMARK LEGAL SECRETARY Intell. Property**  
Alex. Old Town - Long estab. IP firm seeks secretary w/excellent computer, communic., grammar & typing skills to assist w/U.S. Trademark Prosecution, U.S. Patent Litig., & some U.S. & Foreign Patent Prosecution. Min. 1 yr. exp. WP, MS Word, PCLaw & PCMaster a plus. Benefits incl. medical, 401K, free underground prkg. Email resume to: **hr@baconthomas.com**

### Marketing Analyst At The Washington Post

Exciting opportunity in strategic marketing and analysis. Great for Business and Strategy grads! Perform data analysis; develop and implement projects to grow classified advertising revenue. Requires strong quantitative and analytical skills, ability to systematically analyze data and provide meaningful conclusions based on data. Time management and multi-tasking skills and strong proficiency in Excel necessary. More info: [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com). Send resume to [talentsearch@washpost.com](mailto:talentsearch@washpost.com). Attn: **MAEXP/LB**

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## Mechanics

### Tourmobile Sightseeing

Transportation co. seeks exper'd FT mechanics. Min 5 yrs exper in repair of light/medium duty vehicles. CDL License, diesel exper desirable. Must work flexible shifts, including weekends/holidays. Excel benefits. Free parking. Apply in person: 1000 Ohio Drive, SW, WDC Call 202-488-5203 for info.  
EOE/M/F/H/V

## PHYSICIAN

Physician - PCP NEEDED - HIV experience a plus. Cooperative population. CLIA approved office lab. EMR. Support staff. E-mail resume to [info@qstreetmds.com](mailto:info@qstreetmds.com) or fax to 202-667-0532.

Printing  
FT/PT. **Small Format Press Operator** for print shop in NOVA. Contact Jason at: 703-498-9025

### Pre-Press Technician

Experienced Prepress output technician w/strong layout & imposition skills. Must be fluent in CTP workflow & able to work in a Mac Preflight environment W/Quark, Indesign & Acrobat Pro/Pitstop programs. Alex VA, free parking, insurance, profit sharing. Fax resume to 703-548-1084 Attn: AI

## RECEPTIONIST

Have an immediate opportunity for a full-time receptionist. Experience in Microsoft Office and good computer skills a must. Must be flexible to work day/evening shifts. The Club offers great benefits and competitive salaries. Convenient to Metro (Capitol South Station), please note **"NO PARKING"** available. All applicants must speak fluent English. Equal Opportunity Employer. Resume and/or applications accepted Mon-Fri: Fax 202-484-5808 or mail/walk-in to:  
**The Capitol Hill Club**  
300 First Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003  
Attn: Human Resources  
**No Phone Calls Please**

### Recruitment Advertising Sales

Seeking ambitious up-and-comer who is bright, fun, focused, and driven to exceed sales goals. Must be coachable, play well with others & work independently. Sell across our print and online advertising products. Prospect for and close new business. Be welcomed by your colleagues, enjoy a supportive management structure, develop your skills, and accelerate your career. For more information: [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com). Send resume to: [talentsearch@washpost.com](mailto:talentsearch@washpost.com). Attn: **IOEXP/LB**

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## RESIDENTIAL COUNSELORS

Weekend & evening PT positions available. Will provide supervision for MR/DC adults on community outing & recreation fun. Salary \$9/hr, apply in person, 9a-4:30p. Total Care Services, 5780 2nd St., NE, Washington, DC 20011.

## Restaurant

**Manager Bartenders**  
Security and Bar Back  
Alt lifestyle , Cap Hill nightclub hiring all positions. Great work environment. Benefits. Resumes to: **timbrownesq@aol.com**.

## Restaurant

**Receiving/Kitchen Steward**  
Private Club and Supervisor experience a plus. Great opportunity for experienced professional. Must be fluent in English. Must be available for "flexible" full-time hours. The club offers great benefits and competitive salaries. Convenient to Metro (Capitol South Station), please note **"NO PARKING"** available. Equal Opportunity Employer. Resume and/or applications accepted Mon-Fri or Fax 202-484-5808 or mail/walk-in to: **The Capitol Hill Club, 300 1st Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003 Attn: Human Resources. NO phone calls please.**

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Work from home as a license Life Insurance Agent. DC Metro area. Call 866-412-5621.

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Entry level \$600-\$900/wk. Oppty. to learn mktg & tech integration in education field. Preset/pre-qualified appts. NO EXPER. Training provided. Salary/comm. Car required.  
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Work with pro NFL/NBA/MLB sports teams. Positions in Sales, Mgmt., Public Relations & Marketing. Professional image a must. Will train. Up to \$800-\$1000/wk. Call Melissa, 571-633-2330. [www.skyhighmktginc.com](http://www.skyhighmktginc.com)

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DC firm seeks PT special events security officers to work in the DC Metro area. Must have current guard license. Uniforms & training provided. For an interview call 202-543-6080.

### Teacher Recruitment JOB FAIR

#### Montgomery County Public Schools Rockville, Maryland

\*Special Education (all areas)  
\*Speech Pathologist \*OT \*PT  
\*Technology Ed \*Computer Science \*Math \*Physics \*Chemistry  
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Reading Specialist \*Early Childhood

December 2007 & May 2008  
Graduates encouraged to attend

Must have degree & certification by  
Fall 2008

**Saturday, November 3, 2007**  
**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
Shady Grove Middle School  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

To register for interviews please e-mail Cover Letter w/ area of certification & Resume to:  
[Barbara\\_M\\_Ruppel@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Barbara_M_Ruppel@mcpsmd.org)

**Registration deadline:**  
**Oct. 31, 2007**

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Must be self-starter. Exper. pref'd. **Vet Kennel Att'd.** FT/PT am shift w/wkends & holidays. \$6-\$9/hr Apply w/in: 2935 Chain Bridge Rd Oakton, VA

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## JOBS

## JOBS

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**Apply At:**

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Silver Spring, MD 20910

**Store Location:**

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**Att: Business Office**

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**Email: [kris@eltiempolatino.com](mailto:kris@eltiempolatino.com)**

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## Features:

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Minimum income to qualify is \$21,750 yearly.  
If you move in by October 31, 2007 we will offer a security deposit  
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3BR 2.5BA Col. TH, Large Garden Patio w/ Priv.  
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Landover—\$1400.00, 3 BR tw, New carpet/paint,  
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**1/2 MONTH FREE\***  
1-BRs from \$785  
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Must move in by 10/15/07

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**FREE UTILITIES!!**  
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- \*Hardwood Floors
- \*On-site Laundry
- \*24 Hour Maintenance
- \*Walk in closets
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NW

**The Chatham**  
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-Remodeled kitchen -Wall to wall carpet  
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**SE** EHO

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# LOOK out

\*TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

## Devoted Attitude

### Religion

#### An eclectic group of Buddhist priests find new take on Zen

As he leads his followers through a ritual at a centuries-old temple deep in the mountains of central Japan, Brad Warner wears the flowing black robes and brown bib that identify him as a Buddhist priest.

But Warner isn't your typical Zen master.

He doesn't have a shaved head. Under his robes he wears baggy jeans and a "Kiss Army" T-shirt. And, unlike just about all of his Japanese counterparts, Warner doesn't do funerals.

"There are already enough people in that business," he says.

Warner, an Ohio native based in Los Angeles, is one in an eclectic breed of American priests who are finding a new take on the venerable Buddhist tradition of Zen.

A punk rock bassist, Warner came into contact with Zen while a student at Kent State University. A stint in Japan led to a meeting

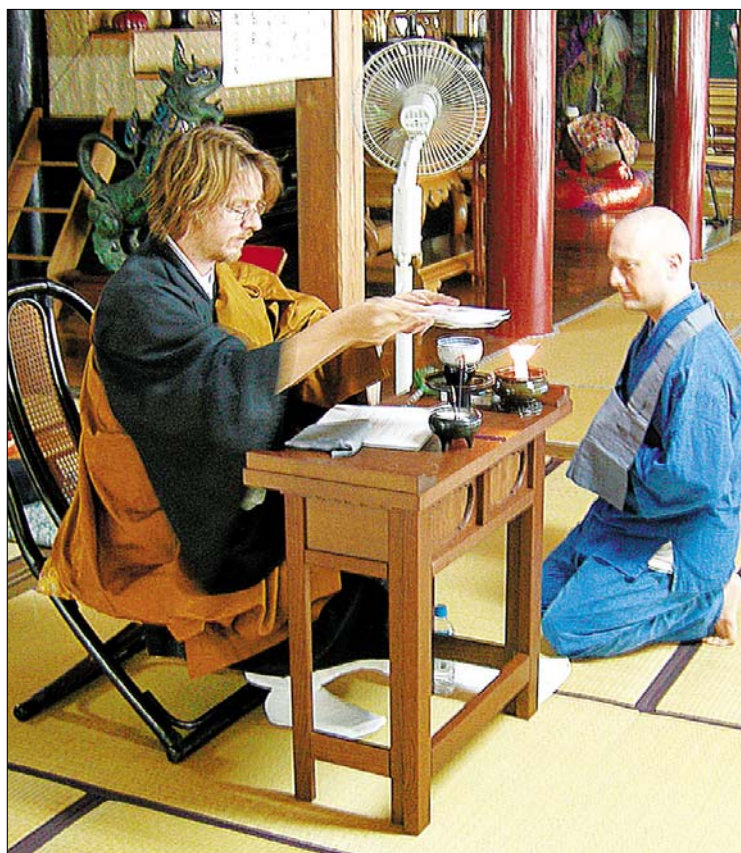
INSIDE

Britney can't see her kids at all now | 46



Live Online: Discussing national security | 44

Blog Log: Customer service nightmare | 44



FREE SPIRIT: Brad Warner, left, leads a Zen ceremony for practitioner Ren Kuroda.

with the Japanese Zen priest who was to later become his teacher and mentor.

"If I hadn't been asked by my teacher, I probably would never had done it," he said. "It's not something

that I wanted to do before I die."

Along with his day job, Warner runs a meditation center in Santa Monica, Calif., joins in annual retreats here in the hills near Mount Fuji and has written two popular

books — "Hardcore Zen" and "Sit Down and Shut Up."

The books have done well, selling tens of thousands of copies. But getting people to actually come for his sittings is another story.

"Many people are interested in reading about it but not in actually practicing it," he said.

Warner sees himself as a follower of earlier Zen priests, who tried to remove much of the pomp and restore the focus on simplicity and meditation.

"Zen was founded as a sort of reform movement," Warner said.

His spiritual message, however, is traditional: just sit. The rigorous practice of zazen, or sitting meditation, is at the heart of Zen teachings.

"You try to just sit," Warner said. "Let the mind just shut off."

That's easier said than done.

Research indicates that people, on average, have somewhere about 20,000 thoughts per day, and for most people the internal monologue is constant.

"I'm reminded of software that says you must close down all other programs before downloading," said Robert Gumley, a former Australian diplomat who joined in a retreat. "It's a lot like that."

ERIC TALMADGE (AP)

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# LOOK out Online

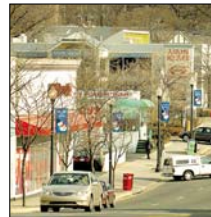

[readexpress.com](http://readexpress.com)

## site specifics

### FILM

#### Totally Corny

In the entertaining documentary "King Corn," college pals Ian Cheney, right, and Curt Ellis discover that they physically consist mostly of corn, and they each have family from the same small county in Iowa. Express' Arion Berger spoke with director Aaron Woolf before the film's opening on Friday. | COMING UP



### OUT & ABOUT

#### Columbia Pike Food Fest

Tasty treats will abound on Sunday when the Columbia Pike area debuts its Taste of the Pike International Food Festival, featuring food ranging from Middle Eastern to Italian to American fare. Express' Michael Grass details who's cooking and how best to get there. | COMING UP

### MUSIC

#### New Wave's Tsunami

One of the U.K.'s best live bands, British Sea Power, is bringing its onstage madness to this side of the pond, headlining at the Black Cat on Friday. Express contributor Jason Koebler talked to bassist Scott Wilkinson before the group set sail. | COMING UP



## comment board

**“You'd better believe** I will! Mayor Fenty may never do anything else during his term, but in this one decision he has made the life of every resident and tourist easier.”

**COMMENTER PDUBYA**, WHO ADDED, "HE HAS MOVED US IN WITH OTHER WORLD-CLASS CITIES. MAYOR FENTY, YOU HAVE MY VOTE!"

**“I don't think** I will use the cabs any more frequently, but I do trust the meters' ability to do math. I would not make that statement about the average cabdriver.”

**COMMENTER JOHN**, WHO ADDED, "I WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPY WITH THE COMPROMISE OF ADDING GPS TO VERIFY THE ZONES."



**“Requiring meters** is mainly a barrier to entry designed to favor corporate-owned taxis over independent cabs. This is a regressive move for D.C. [that] favors rich corporations.”

**COMMENTER TP**, RESPONDING TO THURSDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "WILL YOU BE MORE LIKELY TO TAKE A CAB IN D.C. ONCE THE ZONE SYSTEM IS PHASED OUT?"

## poll center

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

WILL YOU BE MORE LIKELY TO TAKE A CAB IN D.C. ONCE THE ZONE SYSTEM IS PHASED OUT?

**YES** 74%

**NO** 26%

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT [READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHP](http://readexpress.com/pollcenter.php)



“United must do what makes fiscal sense, and while I long for geographical purity, I long for a team more. Let them do what they must.”

**DCUNITEDBLOG.BLOGSPOT.COM** WOULD BE SAD IF D.C. UNITED LEAVES THE DISTRICT FOR MARYLAND BUT SAYS UNITED MUST DO WHAT WORKS BEST FOR IT.



PAUL SAKUNA/AP

**“This was beyond incompetent customer service; it was just unacceptable. I got so pissed, I shook and cried. Yes, I cried ... out of anger.”**

**LEGALLYHEIDI.WORDPRESS.COM** RECOUNTS A STORY OF HORRIBLE CUSTOMER SERVICE AT A LOCAL BEST BUY, ADDING, "UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, I HAVE A \$1,000 PAPERWEIGHT."



**“THERE SHOULD BE** three lines: fly a lot, never flown at all and fly once a year and forget all the rules between flights. ... If I have to get in line behind someone with a cellphone super-glued to her face or another 'tourist' taking coins out of their pockets.”

**A WONKETTE.COM** COMMENTER HATES SECURITY LINES AT THE NATION'S AIRPORTS.

**“MAKE SURE YOUR** decorations and giveaways don't contain lead. OK, so that's not really exclusively a 'green' tip, but with Halloween items joining the parade of Chinese-made toys containing lead, it's probably this year's most urgent advice.”

**THEGREENMILES.BLOGSPOT.COM** PASSES ON TIPS FOR A GREEN HALLOWEEN.

**“WE SPOTTED** a man at the picnic table, brushing out his golden retriever, and asked him nicely. ... He returned none of our pleasantness, evidently sensing that we were from the nastier side of town.”

**INTANGIBLEARTS.BLOGSPOT.COM** FOUND A MEAN MAN WHILE SEARCHING FOR A DOG-FRIENDLY PARK IN GLOVER PARK.

## Discussions

### National Security

Washington Post intelligence reporter **DANA PRIEST** was online Thursday to discuss the latest developments in national security and intelligence.

**What do career Army officers think about bringing back the draft?**

Generally, they are very opposed to a draft because it brings in so many people who do not want to be in the Army and, therefore, are hard to manage. They are very proud of the professional, voluntary force they have now, overstretched as it may be.

**Why is it that when the choice is made between upholding the Constitution and acting for national security, the Constitution is always the second choice?**

Well, this is the literal answer: We will not have a Constitution unless we have a secure nation. So, national security does, even in law, trump laws that are otherwise in effect.

**Who in the National Security Agency is asking for authority to do these no-warrant wiretaps? Is this an intelligence community-generated issue, or is this a politically generated issue?**

Well, certainly the director of national intelligence, Mike McConnell is, and so is CIA Director

Michael Hayden. I don't recall recent public statements by the NSA's director, Gen. Keith Alexander. So, the answer is: the intelligence community.

**How do you think it would affect U.S. relations with its allies if the new Guantanamo tribunals determined that a large number of these captives had been not guilty all along?**

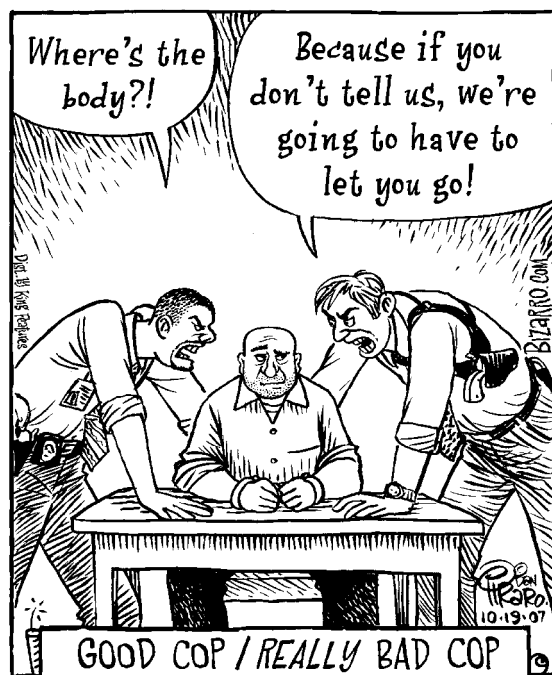
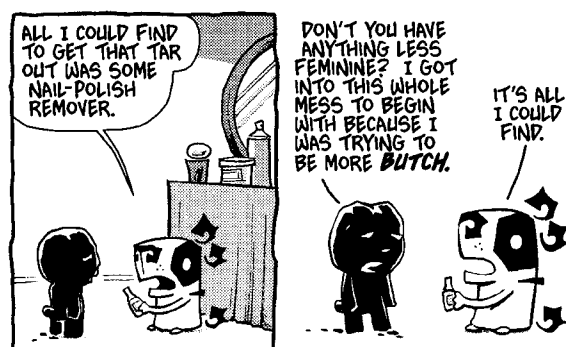
Frankly, I think this is the conventional wisdom anyway. The damage has already been done.

**TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS:** The Post's Warren Brown answers your questions about every aspect of the automotive industry at 11 a.m. | [washingtonpost.com/discussions](http://washingtonpost.com/discussions).

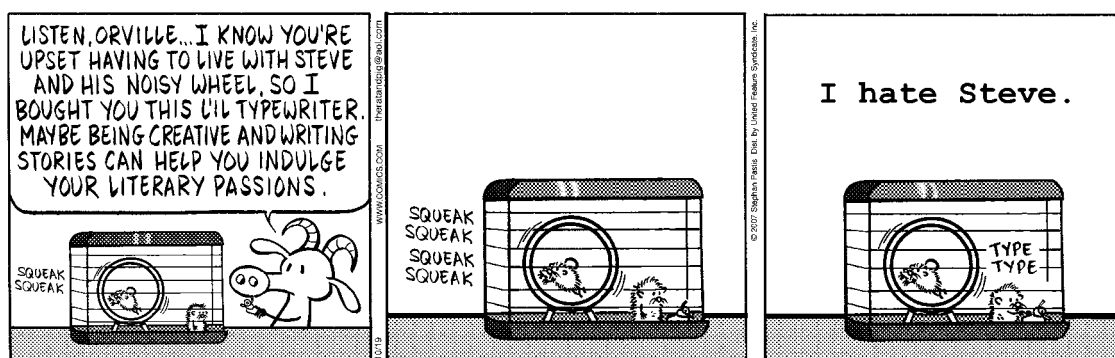
**DO**

**EXPECT A NEW EXHIBIT ON THE NATIONAL MALL.** A federal design panel approved on Thursday a planned underground visitors' center and exhibit space that would accompany the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It is projected to cost up to \$100 million, with a groundbreaking planned for 2010.

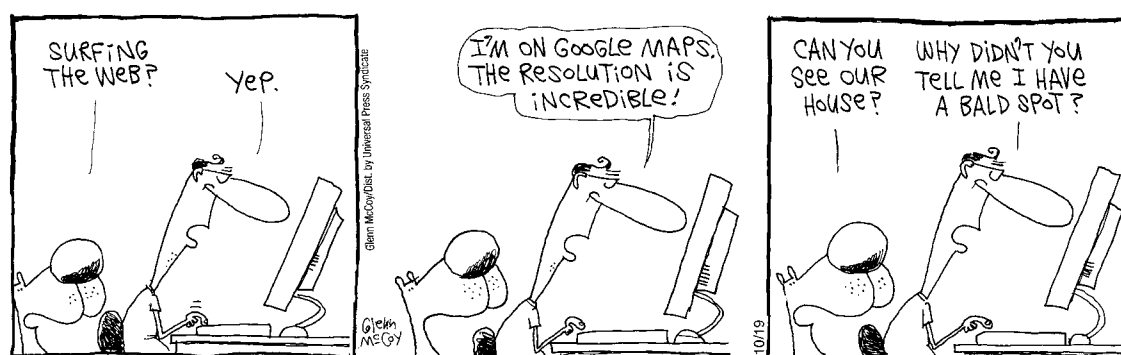
## Bizarro | Dan Piraro

**Pooch Cafe** | *Paul Gilligan*

**Pearls Before Swine** | *Stephan Pastis*



**The Duplex** | *Glenn McCoy*



## Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*



“OK, you want a cool 70% in short-term with long-term assets frozen at 30%. Let me pull it all together, and I’ll get back to you with a recommendation.”

# Horoscope

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** It may seem as though two interlocking pieces of a puzzle do not quite fit together. Indeed, you have to be creative with this one.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21)** Take care that you characterize others accurately, or you may find that you are portrayed rather unromantically on the grapevine.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** There are many different ways to tell the same story, and you're sure to discover one that is uniquely your own.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Things are sure to be and remain positive throughout the day, provided your attitude and outlook are at their very best.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Trouble may be brewing, slowly, but you should be able to avoid anything serious if you remain close to those whom you most trust. Communicate.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** You must be patient at all times and willing to let things develop according to a sched-

ule that is natural and organic. Don't force things.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Don't dwell on your own bad habits, or you may find that they are exaggerated and augmented. Concentrate on doing what you know is right.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Let others help you out if you feel your back is against the wall. Don't let pride keep you from accepting a valuable piece of advice.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** No one knows as well as you just where you are headed, and yet you may feel a little bit lost—temporarily, however. Don't panic.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** You can produce remarkable results by sticking to your guns and following your instincts. You needn't stray from your prescribed path.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** You're in a good position to negotiate — and, very likely, receive almost everything that you want. Be reasonable at all times in your demands.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Your reputation is intact, but you mustn't take it for granted or rely on it too exclusively. Be sure that your actions are honest, fair.

# Letters

the team used a derogatory mascot and caricature of an African-American, Latino or Asian-American, would D.C. fans support it? Of course not. In the same way, D.C. fans instinctively know that use of the name "Redskins" is a mockery to the first people of America, and thus find it difficult to support the team. Native Americans are people — not mascots.

—ANGELINA OKUDA  
*Culpepper, Va.*

## Redskins Name Is Offensive

**IN THE LETTER** “Where are Redskins Fans?” (Oct. 17), Ross Buerlein expresses confusion and outrage regarding the lack of Redskins spirit in Washington. He fails to account for how difficult it is to support a team with an incredibly racist and disrespectful name. If

**WRITE TO EXPRESS:** Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to [inbox@readexpress.com](mailto:inbox@readexpress.com) or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

## Today in History

**1781** British troops under Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrender at Yorktown, Va., as the American Revolution neared its end.

**1812** French forces under Napoleon Bonaparte begin their retreat from Moscow.

**1936** H.R. Ekins of the New York World-Telegram beats out Dorothy Kilgallen of the New York Journal and Leo Kieran of the New York Times in a round-the-world race on commercial flights that lasted 18 days.

A photograph showing a man in a dark suit sitting at a desk in a busy stock exchange. He has his head buried in his hands, suggesting stress or despair. In the background, other traders are visible, and a large electronic display board shows stock market data. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source coming from the screens and overhead fixtures.

"Black Monday" hit Wall Street in 1987.

**1987** The stock market crashes as the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, losing 22.6 percent in value.

LOOK

out

People



No one noticed him entering rehab. He was NOT going to endure a repeat.

ATTENTION

**'Hey, MEDIA! Look at Me, LEAVING REHAB Quietly!'**

**JOHN GOODMAN** has checked out of a rehab center in Malibu, Calif., after being treated for an undisclosed reason. It was unclear how long the actor was treated, or when he was released. "For my family and myself, I voluntarily took the necessary steps to remain sober the rest of my life," Goodman said. (AP)

GRAMMAR

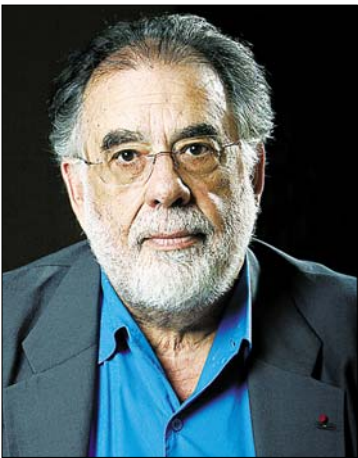
**'Also, the Title Seems To Be Missing a Verb'**

**ANG LEE**'s new film, "Lust, Caution," has been withdrawn as Taiwan's entry for the best foreign film category at next year's Oscars. An insufficient number of Taiwanese participated in the production, violating a rule that requires countries to certify that locals "exercised artistic control" over their submission. (AP)

FINALLY

**Ellen Just Loses It**

**ELLEN DEGENERES** says she's done talking about her canine problem and is pleading for calm. The controversy surrounding an adopted dog has "gotten out of hand," she said on Thursday's show, taped Wednesday. On Thursday, she canceled taping of Friday's show, TMZ.com reported. "Ellen is taking a long weekend and will be back with a new show on Tuesday," said a statement. (AP)



To work with him, you must give up all worldly concerns and possessions.

PURITY

**Wanted: Hermits, Ascetics For Roles in Gangland Drama**

Everyone wants Al Pacino, Robert De Niro and Jack Nicholson, except **FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA**, who says the actors are apathetic. "I don't feel that kind of passion to do a role and be great coming from those guys. ... If it was there, they would do it," he tells GQ. "Pacino always wanted to do theater. He wanted to do 'Peer Gynt.' He wanted to do Shakespeare. [He'll] say, 'Oh, I was raised next to a furnace in New York, and I'm never going to L.A.,' but they all live off the fat of the land." (AP)



DELUSIONAL

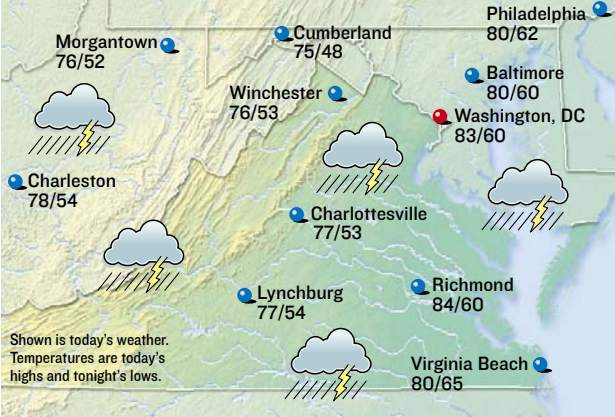
**Judge Blames Spears — Not Parents, the Media or Managers!**

**BRITNEY SPEARS** can't even visit her children now. The troubled star may not see 2-year-old Sean Preston and 1-year-old Jayden James — who are in the custody of Spears' ex-husband, Kevin Federline — until she complies with a court order, Superior Court Commissioner Scott Gordon ruled. The order, dated Wednesday, does not spell out what directives Spears defied. A hearing was scheduled for Oct. 26. In the past, Gordon has reprimanded Spears for not complying with other orders, repeatedly saying that she lost primary custody to Federline due to her own choices. (AP)

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Heavy afternoon thunderstorms	Mostly cloudy, a couple of t-storms	Partly sunny, breezy, less humid	Mostly sunny, warm	Increasingly cloudy	Mostly cloudy, chance of rain
83°	60°	74° / 53°	76° / 58°	82° / 54°	66° / 47°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature	
High	81°
Low	64°
Normal high	67°
Normal low	49°
Average humidity	73%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	1.92"
Year to date	21.64"
Last year to date	39.02"
Normal year to date	31.97"

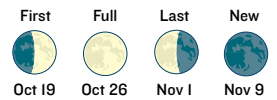
For up-to-the-minute weather, see: [washingtonpost.com/weather](http://washingtonpost.com/weather)

Regional Forecast

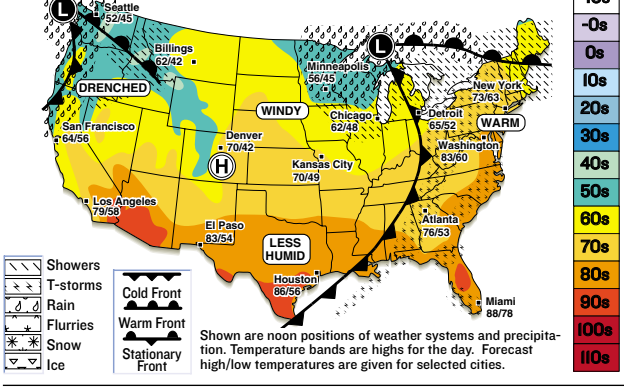
**D.C. Metro:** Today, variably cloudy, showers, heavy thunderstorm. High 83. Wind south 10-20 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy, showers, thunderstorm.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:21 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:25 p.m.
Moonrise today	2:52 p.m.
Moonset today	none



National Weather for Friday, October 19



National Cities

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	76/53/t	78/52/s
Boston	72/62/c	72/54/pc
Chicago	62/48/sh	69/52/s
Dallas	84/56/s	84/66/s
Denver	70/42/pc	73/34/pc
Honolulu	86/73/s	86/72/pc
Los Angeles	79/58/s	70/56/pc
Miami	88/78/t	89/77/t
New York City	73/63/t	72/57/pc
Orlando	89/72/t	88/70/t
Seattle	52/45/r	54/44/r

World Cities

City	Today	Sat.
Amsterdam	53/41/c	50/43/pc
Athens	73/65/s	75/65/pc
Berlin	45/34/pc	43/34/pc
Buenos Aires	79/61/c	70/59/pc
Calgary	51/32/pc	48/30/c
Dublin	57/45/s	59/46/pc
Geneva	52/25/s	52/30/s
Moscow	48/39/r	46/41/r
Rome	65/37/s	57/39/pc
Sydney	79/61/pc	79/64/s
Tokyo	61/59/sh	64/50/pc

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

### ACROSS

38 Puffed up  
41 Took in  
42 Common  
connectors  
44 Part of HRE  
45 City on the Ruhr  
47 Some headlights  
49 Needy  
neighborhood  
50 McClurg of "The  
Hogan Family"  
51 Indira's wrap  
52 Barrister's  
practice  
54 Megahit  
60 At \_\_\_\_ (confused)  
62 A flat, thick piece  
63 Opposite of 35-  
Across  
64 Z maker  
65 After midnight,  
say  
66 In the same book,  
briefly  
67 Klondike territory  
68 Had a  
responsibility  
69 Buttonlike?

**DOWN**

1 Messy eater, e.g.

2 Relaxation  
3 Mona \_\_\_\_  
4 Saint from Assisi  
5 "Cool!"  
6 A series of skits  
7 Poker declaration  
8 Inclination  
9 Overdo a fast  
10 Ages and ages  
11 Lamb or pork cut  
12 "Look, Ma, no  
hands!"  
13 Let flow, as tears  
21 Sheep shelters  
22 Spooky  
26 Cornfield unit  
27 "\_\_\_\_, Plain and  
Tall"  
28 Bullfight site  
29 Problem-solving,  
slangily  
30 Occupies  
completely  
31 "\_\_\_\_ Two Can  
Play" (Peter Sellers  
comedy)  
32 Sunday service  
music  
33 Testimony taker  
35 Henry Hudson's  
ship, "Half \_\_\_\_"

39 One of Merv's  
shows, informally  
40 India's first prime  
minister  
43 Turf  
46 Like earthquakes  
48 Court great  
Althea  
49 Swapped stories  
51 Ape Hans Brinker  
52 Word with  
"bones" or "Susan"

53 Felipe, Matty, or  
Jesus of baseball  
55 Capital on a  
fjord  
56 Bear's scratcher  
57 Banned, in  
Bonn  
58 Get off the road  
59 "Free \_\_\_\_" (Edgar  
Winter hit)  
61 "Full," on  
Broadway, briefly

## Yesterday's Solution

1	P	2	O	3	K	4	E		5	G	6	A	7	B		8		9	T	10	I	11	A	12	S	13	
14	E	R	I	K	A				15	O	I	L			16	T	O	R	I	C	H						
17	K	I	N	G	C			18	O	B	R	A			19	M	A	N	O	R							
20	O	E	D					21	B	I	S	H	O		22	S	O	L	T	U	T						
23	E	L	A		24	P	25	E					26	S	O	L	O										
							27	L	O	Y		28	A		29	L		30	M	E	R		31	G	E	R	
34	S	35	T	U	P				37	L	E	A	P				39	L	E	E							
44	K	N	I	G	H	T			41	T	B	A	C	H			42	L	O	R	S						
44	I	N							45	A	S	T					46	S	H	D	E	P	O	T			
47	S	E	T					48	S	A	T			50	T	I	E	D									
							52	A	B	E	T			53	T			54	E	N	A		58	M	56	E	7
59	P	58	A	W	N	B	R	O	K	E	R		61	K	E	R		63	A	L	I						
64	O	X	I	D	E				65	Q	U	E					66	N	P	O	S	T					
68	M	E	R	R	Y				69	U	R	L					70	E	R	I	E						
71	P	L	E	A	S				72	E	D	S					73	D	R	I	E						

EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21					22			23	
			24						25		26			
27	28	29					30	31					32	33
34						35					36			
37				38	39					40		41		
42			43		44					45	46			
47				48					49					
		50						51						
52	53			54		55	56					57	58	59
60			61			62					63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

**Fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles. A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another.**

## Last Week's Solution

[illegible]

	2		9		5	7				5	7		8		9		
	1					8					6					7	
4			3							8					2		6
		1	7			6								4		1	7
	7		6		2								9		4		1
		8	1		5	9							8	2	5	6	
1			8		7			3		2		7		5	6		3
	2																8
8	7		6											9		2	6
						8		5									
					8								6				
								9		4							
	6	3			8									3		5	8
	8															3	
4			2		6			7		9		2		7		9	
			5	8		4	7							1	5	2	3
	4			3		7									9		7
			8	1			2								9		8
5				6											1		5
	3							8						8			1
			7		1		4	2						6	2	7	9

		2	8					
5				3			6	7
1					6			
		3		8				5
	7		2		1		8	
8				4		2		
			6					1
2	4			1				9
					5	6		

## Yesterday's Solution

3	2	7	1	9	6	5	8	4
8	5	9	4	7	2	3	6	1
6	1	4	3	8	5	2	9	7
1	6	3	9	5	4	7	2	8
7	9	2	6	1	8	4	3	5
5	4	8	2	3	7	9	1	6
9	7	5	8	6	3	1	4	2
4	3	6	5	2	1	8	7	9
2	8	1	7	4	9	6	5	3

**Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)**

**Need more Su|do|ku?**

Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

**express**

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I-66 W. to Rte. 29 (Exit 52) toward Centreville.  
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on Rte. 1 to Left on Truslow Rd. to comm. on Left.

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I-95 S. to Rte. 17 N. (Exit 133B). Go 1.5 mi. to  
Left on Celebrate Virginia Pkwy. Go 2.5 mi. to Left  
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I-95 S. to Rte 1 S. (Exit 126). Go 1 mi. to Rt. on  
Spotsylvania Pkwy. to Left on Holly Oak. Turn Left  
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I-66 W. to Rte. 522/340 N. (Exit 6). Turn Rt.  
Go 9.5 mi. to Left on Tasker Rd. Go 1.5 mi. to Left  
to comm. on Left.

### Hamilton Court in Stephens City

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Rte. 50 to Winchester. Merge on VA-37 S.

to I-81 S. Exit Left on Rt. 277 to comm. on Left.

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Rte. 7 to Winchester. Turn Left on Greenwood Dr.

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to comm. on Left.

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Waldorf. Left onto MD-5 S. (St. Mary's County-Lexington  
Park). Left onto Leonardtown Rd. MD-5 S. becomes  
MD-235/Three Knotch Rd. Rt. onto Pegg Rd. to Rt.  
onto Westbury Blvd. W.

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# Styles

OCTOBER 19-21, 2007

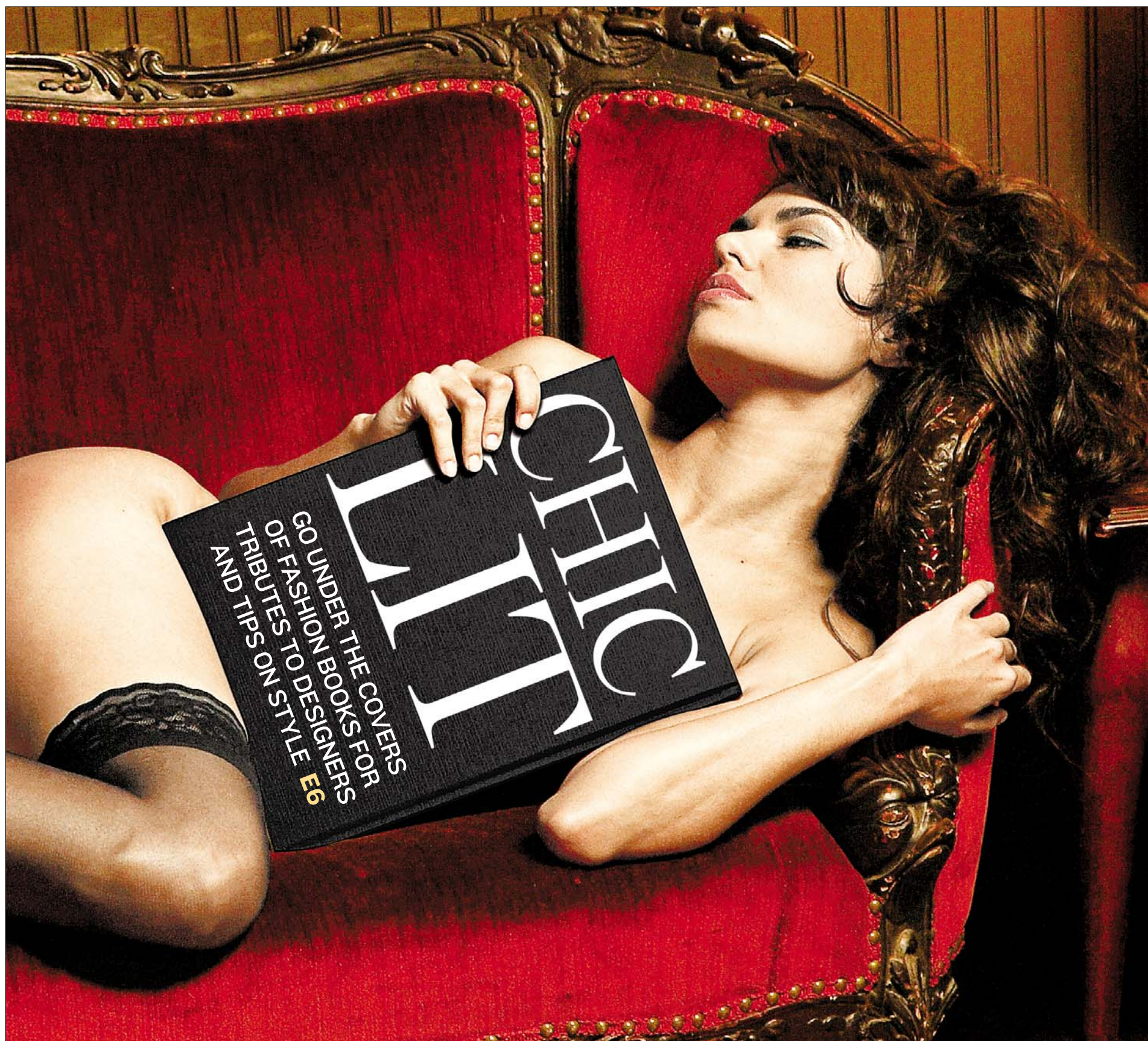


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➔ **PLUS:** Casey Affleck on vegan cooking, dive bars and being bossed around by Ben | **E2**

# face QA time

■ **You could say Casey Affleck** is having a moment, with his recent turns in the flicks “The Assassination of Jesses James by the Coward Robert Ford” and “Gone Baby Gone,” opening today. Critics praised both roles, but don’t call the 32-year-old a movie star. He’s a humble guy who prefers watching the Red Sox to walking the red carpet.

**Any extra pressure with your brother Ben directing? He’s said his career is riding on this film, that it’s the linchpin of his life.**

He’s prone to hyperbole. I don’t think those things are true. The movie is really good, and he’ll direct again. He knows what he’s doing.

**“Baby” is about the search for a missing girl, and it’s pretty heart-wrenching. Was it hard as a parent?**

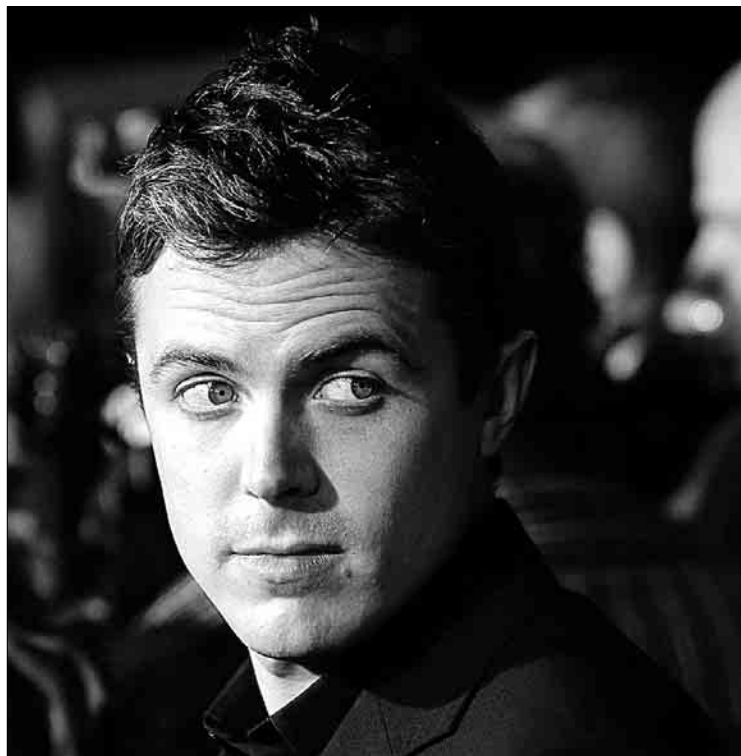
It’s pretty upsetting stuff. There are 800,000 children reported missing every year. Luckily, most are found really quickly, but the number is staggering. Even for your worst-nightmare scenario — boogeyman-style kidnapping — it’s horrifying. You want to take every precaution, but you don’t want to dwell on it.

**Which of these recent roles did you enjoy doing the most?**

To be perfectly honest, I don’t really enjoy playing anybody, except Casey Affleck lying on the couch watching the Red Sox. For whatever reason, it’s either because it doesn’t come naturally to me or because I’m just somehow inclined toward strife. I don’t know what it is, but, usually, when I’m working, I’m not really having a good time.

**Sounds like you’re kind of hard on yourself.**

There’s so much time spent as an actor when you aren’t working, that if you’re going to do work for three or four months a year, then I would rather just work really, really hard. That’s more satisfying, and I’ve got time to sit around and enjoy myself



CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

## Casey Affleck

STAR OF ‘GONE BABY GONE,’ RED SOX FAN

when I’m not working. I don’t have to be focused; I can have a laugh.

**What about when you are working?**

You want to try and make something be believable. Say you’re doing a scene where you’re having a big argument with your wife. Well, if you want that to be believable, you sort of have to get yourself agitated, angry and upset. That’s how you

spend your day. I don’t know who enjoys doing that, but I don’t.

**With these two movies out, it seems like it’s the year of Casey.**

Does that mean I get a calendar? What does that mean about January? Is my year over? I feel like every year is another year of my life. I never realized the first 31 years were somebody else’s.

“I’m a pretty good cook, but I’m not going to be appearing on ‘Top Chef’ soon.”

**I hear you’re a good vegan cook.**

I’m a pretty good cook, but I’m not going to be appearing on “Top Chef” anytime soon.

**And I understand you went to George Washington University.**

For a couple months. I was living with a friend and decided that while I was here I’d go to school for a while. I did a semester there, and then I did two years at Columbia.

**Any spots you frequented?**

The dives I went to when I was here, I didn’t get a chance to take my wife and child to on this visit. Let’s see if I can remember ... and I can’t.

KRIS CORONADO (EXPRESS)

For more of our chat with Affleck, see [Readexpress.com](http://Readexpress.com).

# IN THE POST TODAY

TO DO • Horses in Harrisburg, Pa., and The Plains; hitch a ride on a **haunted train** 3

MUSIC • **Sinead O’Connor** — yeah, she’s still around — brings her music and unique insights to Strathmore 6

THEATER • The powerful tale of **‘The Women of Brewster Place’** takes on a ’70s soundtrack 18

*The Washington Post*  
October 19, 2007

## Weekend

### MORE THAN A GAME

Footstomping marching bands, flyover fanfare, family time.  
An afternoon of college football isn’t just priceless—it can be cheap. Page 28

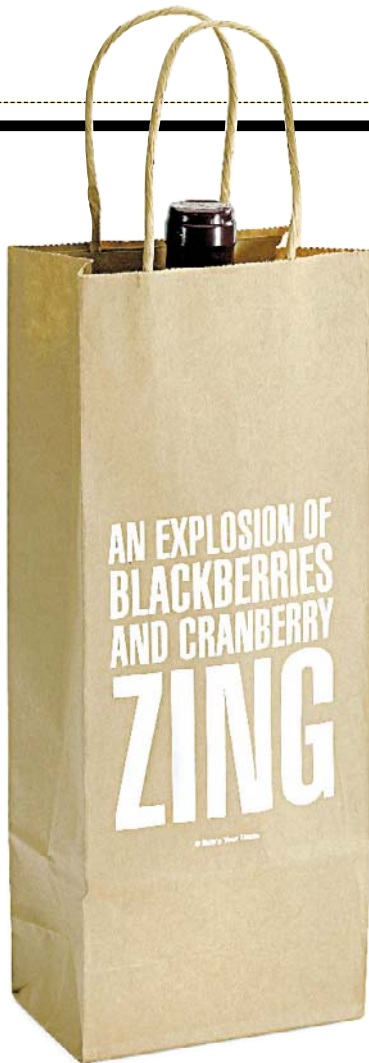
## Affordable Fun

Marching bands, flyovers, family time. An afternoon of college football isn’t just priceless—it can be cheap. Find out in today’s Weekend section.

**Also in Weekend:** Sinead O’Connor reconnects to music. “The Women of Brewster Place” takes on a ’70s soundtrack. Plus, what’s new at the movies, on DVD and in video games.

Great weekends start with the Weekend section.

**The Washington Post**  
If you don’t get it, you don’t get it.



## 4 Tasting Quotes

**VELVET WINE BAGS** are all well and good until someone gets hurt because you hand them a bottle of Zin in the Pottery Barn sack they gave you last Thanksgiving. Avoid social suicide, and fill recipients in on what their vino might taste like, with Bob's Your Uncle's paper bags (\$12 for six, Greenergrassdesign.com).

**Grab Bag**



## 1 Big Bangle Theory

**ANYONE WHO DOUBTS** that the 1980s are back in a big, shiny way hasn't seen RJ Graziano's "Dynasty"-meets-Duran Duran guilty, faux-gem encrusted cuffs (\$38 to \$50, 212-685-1248). Wear one of them while walking like an Egyptian or on sunshine, or just to bling up a little black dress or conservative work suit.

dear  
**manolo**

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBLOGGER

**I'm looking for an everyday shoe to wear with jeans, slacks or a skirt. So far, my search has brought me only headaches, as it seems every shoe is obnoxiously trendy, has too-high a heel or looks like a man's shoe. Is it too much to ask for something feminine, classic and practical?** — KARIN

■ Manolo says, here is the example of the person who is expecting too much from the single pair of the shoes, hop-



## 5 Blooming Economy

**BUTTERFLIES FLIT** over red damask, white lace covers a field of black, and mysterious vixens stare out of exotic gardens on Fringe Studio's mod-yet-pretty vases (\$30 to \$90, Art with Flowers, Tysons Galleria; 703-903-6837). They'd make even a Safeway bouquet look glam.



## Beauty in The Geek

**NERDS, ALREADY HIP** on TV, are winging into fashion, too. Inspired by school uniforms, binary code and other bookish chic, Rhombus' men's and women's clothes (\$55-\$350, Unsungdesigners.com) include graph-paper check shirts (\$165) and wool pants (\$275) for him, plus Japanese-cool jumpsuits and bubble skirts for her.



## 3 The Pet Detective

**YOU KNOW THOSE SEGMENTS** local news channels love — the ones about the horrors of hotel bedspreads? And how they use a black light to reveal said horrors? Dirt Devil's Purpose for Pets (\$100, Best Buy), a portable carpet cleaner with a blacklight in the nozzle, does the same for your rug. Who knew Mr. Muggles thought the patch behind the recliner was territory worth marking? You do, now. Ewww.

ing to find that perfect and magical pair that looks beautiful with the jeans, the dress slacks and the skirts. This is like shopping for the economy car with the performance of the Ferrari and the roominess of the school bus; after the lengthy search, you will finally end up buying the Chrysler minivan.

Still, the Manolo sympathizes with this request, for it is born of the desire to be frugal, to buy only one pair of the shoes instead of many. But this is the false economy, for one needs several pairs of the shoes, so that one does not wear the same pair of the shoes two days in succession.

Look, here is the All Tied Up from the Kenneth Cole Reaction (\$92, Zappos.com): practical, classic, feminine and perfect for wearing with the dress slacks, or perhaps the skirt.



Ask the Manolo a question at [manolo@shoeblogs.com](mailto:manolo@shoeblogs.com). Visit the Manolo at [shoeblogs.com](http://shoeblogs.com).

## ON THE COVER

Alessandra was shot on location at the Rock and Roll Hotel (1353 H St. NE; 202-388-ROCK; Rockandrollhoteldc.com). Hair and makeup by Victoria Stiles, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Model, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Photo by Marge Ely.

# Velour Underground

## Juicy Couture

TYSONS GALLERIA, MCLEAN, VA.  
571-633-1751 | HOURS: MON.-SAT.  
10 A.M.-9 P.M., SUN. NOON.-6 P.M.

With its **Pepto-pink** statues of knights, gilded chairs and mural of a skull with a mohawk, the newest business at the Galleria looks like a club where Marie Antoinette and Alice in Wonderland might meet to drop acid. But in reality, this wild, girly space is the D.C. area's first Juicy Couture boutique (another is due in Georgetown next year). And despite the Joy Division and Spoon songs pounding from the speakers, the only things getting high here are the credit-card bills of stylistas indulging in \$100-plus hoodies, knit dresses and killer knee boots.

### → STYLE

This is the Cali design collective that catwalked to fame dressing stars (Nicole Richie, Eva Longoria) in candy-hued velour tracksuits, so it's no surprise that the boutique's look and merch tends to be young and femme. Think racks — many gilded — filled with stuff like a Catholic school-girlish plaid jumper (\$288), tunic sweaters and puffer coats. Maternity and kid clothes reflect a similar L.A.-meets-Paris vibe.

Decor whimsically blends neo-Baroque glitz (faux deer heads, painted neon shades, enormous jars of candy, Victorian prints) with urban grit like exposed brick and a surfboard painted with the phrase, "Dude, Where's My Couture?"

### → SERVICE

When we saw a Paris Hilton clone walking out of the shop snottily whining at her mom for not shell-ing out, we worried the sales clerks here might be as 'tude-filled as the chicks on "Gossip Girl." Instead, on two visits, we were warmly greeted. While we tried on velour tunics and wide-leg jeans in the toile-wallpapered fitting room, a helpful employee sweetly checked in, fetching extra sizes and offering to put us on a preferred customer mailing list. Take that, Brit and LiLo!

Mystery Shopper



FEMME BOUGHT: Juicy Couture mixes French furniture and California-girl clothes.

Sweatpants and pink aren't your thing? There are plenty of other choices here.

### → PRICE

Tags range from about \$68 for a logo T-shirt to more than \$400 for swing coats and go-go knee boots. Still, many items fall just above \$100 or \$200 a pop.

### → BONUS POINTS

Evening pieces — a sequined wool jersey tunic in black (\$200), a coat in what seems to be synthetic bunny fur (\$450) — gracefully dance between elegance

and ease, meaning we'll be back to score holiday outfits. And we'd love to know who's programming Juicy's playlist; we were tempted to linger and listen to the punk and mope rock.

### → MINUS POINTS

Sometimes, all the sloganeering ("Defend Your Couture," "Choose Juicy") on the walls, chairs and merch seemed a little much.

### → BUREAUCRACY

Full refunds or exchanges within 60 days with receipt and tags.

### → BOTTOM LINE

Sure, you can buy Juicy at Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom, but visiting this glam temple (preferably with your well-dressed posse in tow) seems like a lot more fun. And even if velour sweatpants or pink aren't your thing, there are plenty of other choices here.

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Beautiful  
Legs?



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# Crowd Control

Build a cubby to corral cords, chargers and other clutter

**We never eat at the table** in our breakfast nook — mostly because it's always covered with my junk. Books, mail, newspapers and various contents of my purse come spilling out every night, along with the items that need charging: iPod, cellphone, Bluetooth headset, etc.

In the hopes of rescuing our dining surface, Tom and I designed this wooden box. Holes in the back offer a place for cumbersome cords, and generous 5-inch compartments offer tons of space for Valpak coupons and other such ephemera.

## DEALING IN DIMENSIONS

Our cute cubby can be fashioned from a single piece of lumber that's sliced and diced in different ways. I knew I wanted ours to have three sections and be about 18 inches long but, as I stared at a 10-foot 6-inch by 1-inch board, I couldn't figure out how to make it all come together. In about three minutes, math-savvy Tom came back with the following cuts: three 18-inch by

5.5-inch pieces for the cubby's top, bottom and back, and four 4.75-inch by 5.5-inch pieces for the walls.

To make these cuts, we used a circular saw in our basement, but we don't recommend it — even experienced carpenters have lost digits to its craggy jaws. And while big-box stores won't cut sizes this small, a local hardware store will. We like our neighborhood shop, Pfeiffer's Hardware (3219 Mount

Pleasant St. NW; 202-462-1431), and Logan Hardware (1416 P St. NW; 202-265-8900). Note: Lumber mills don't use exact dimensions. Wood billed as 1 inch

by 6 inches is actually more like .75 inch thick and 5.5 inches wide. So, you haven't been ripped off when your board falls a bit short.

## SHAPING THE SIDES

We wanted this box to hide some of the zillions of cords floating around our house, so Tom used a 5/8-inch paddle bit to drill holes toward the bottom of what would become the cubby's back piece. To ensure that the openings won't be too rough, drill through the board until the point of the drill bit pierces the other side, then flip the board over and began drilling away at the same hole from the other side.

After all the sawing and drill-

ing was complete, I spent a long morning sanding away at all the jagged edges.

## PUZZLE BOX

Putting the thing together would appear to be the easy part, but with so many near-identical pieces, it got a little tricky. First, we stood the 18-inch back piece upside down (so that the holes were near the top) and placed the 18-inch bottom piece on top of it, so that the bottom was flush with the back. We then tapped four small finish nails (about 1.25 inches long) into the bottom piece to fasten the two sides together.

We then set one of the two middle pieces in place and hammered two nails into it from the back piece, and repeated this step with the remaining three cubby walls. To make sure these bits were extra-secure, we hammered nails into them from the bottom piece. Finally, we nailed the top piece into place.

Be careful when hammering nails into the corner of a board, as the wood can split more easily there. Also, don't go at it too vigorously. We hammered our nails in all the way to about 1/16 inch, then used a nail set — a pen-like metal device used to sink nails below the surface of the wood — so we wouldn't leave nasty round hammer marks. We then filled the

## SHOPPING LIST

- 10" by 1" by 6" board: \$8
- Paddle drill bit: \$3
- Finish nails: \$2
- Nail set: \$5
- Sand paper: \$3
- Wood filler: \$4
- Molding (optional): \$6
- Spray paint (optional): \$4
- Coping saw (optional): \$8
- Glue (optional): \$4
- **MAXIMUM COST: \$47**

void above the nail with paintable wood filler.

## TRIM TO TASTE

The brilliance of a cheap wood canvas is you can decorate it any way you like. Here, I glued some carved wood trim (\$5 at Home Depot) to the face of the box. The trim comes in one long piece, so I used a coping saw to cut the small angled pieces I needed. I then spray-painted the whole thing a mossy green. Had I used a nicer-grain wood like oak, rather than cheap commercial lumber, I might have stained the box. The carved details in the trim would have been much more evident.

**Is It Worth It?** They probably sell a more polished version at Crate and Barrel for \$60, but, even with all its imperfections, I like my little box. Tom's a fan, too: That breakfast table's a whole lot neater.



Julia Beizer and her fiancé, Tom, guide newbies through basic home-improvement tasks in our pages a few times per month.

## secret source



## This Compost Comes Cheap

Compost bins are dropping like it's hot. (Sorry, bad global-warming joke!) Gardeners love the backyard tubs for their mulch-making abilities, while the non-green-thumbed are embracing them as a landfill alternative.

And while there are a wide variety on the market (from \$35 to \$995), residents of Arlington and Montgomery counties have home-court advantage: Both municipalities provide bins on the cheap, and demand is growing. Arlington sold 250 this year compared to 50 in 2005, says Jan

Compost bins are free to all MoCo residents.

Guastaferro of its Solid Waste Bureau.

While bins are for sale at most county environmental events, Arlingtonians are encouraged to pop by the Solid Waste Bureau (4300 S. 29th St.; 703-228-6570; Arlingtonva.us/recycle), weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up a Presto Compost Bin (above) for the bargain price of \$10. Live in MoCo? Even better. Compost bins are free to those who stop at one of many pick-up locations (find one at Montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste). Sorry, Washingtonians — the District isn't providing bins yet.

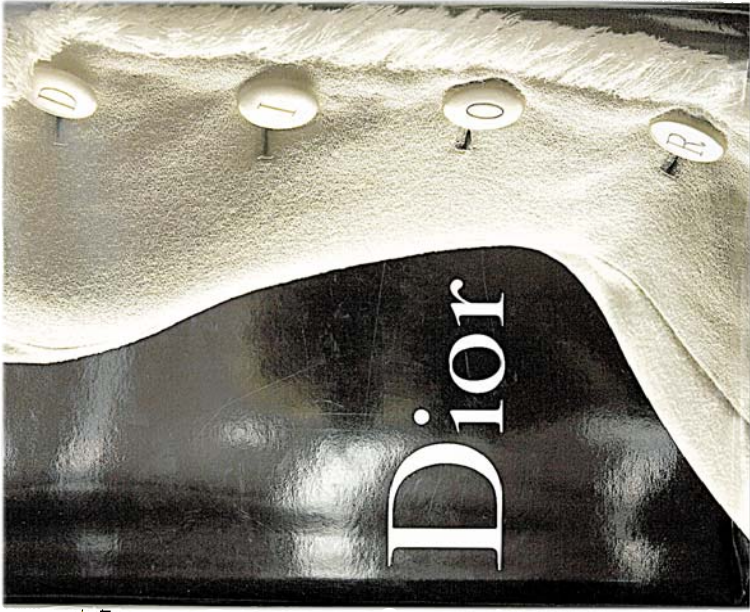
"People think it takes more time to save the environment," says Arlington's Guastaferro. "But actually it can be a time saver." Just think — you can free up all that time you've spent feeling guilty about landfills. KRIS CORONADO (EXPRESS)

# Styles | fashion

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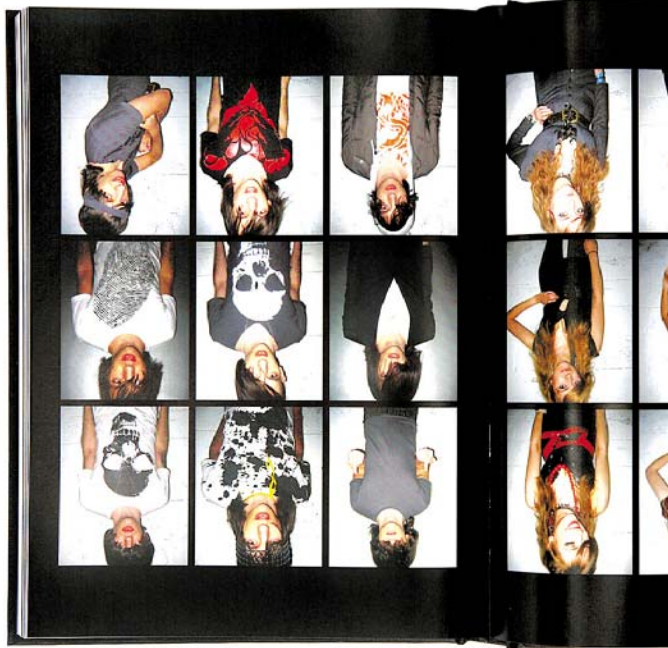
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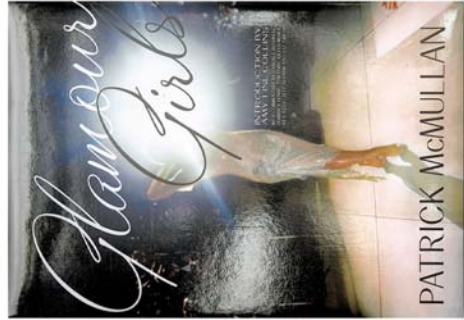
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# Runway Best-Sellers

Perhaps you're better known for hitting the sales racks at Saks than hitting the books. But with a stampede of fashionable titles being released this fall, there's no reason you can't feel as smart as you look. New tomes, mostly of the coffee-table variety, celebrate the world of Hollywood stylists, pay tribute to major design houses and salute iconic garments like trench coats and party frocks. Staying at home to read has never sounded more stylish. CORY OHLENDORF



## 1 The Trench Coat

→ **BY NICK FOULKES**  
Thomas Burberry invented the trench after creating water-resistant gabardine for the British army in the 1800s. The belted babies have since become a wardrobe staple due to their mix of form, fashion and function. Filled with film noir movie stills, fashion layouts and Burberry ads, the book celebrates the coat in all its fabrications, from linen to leather. (\$35, Assouline)

## 2 Christian Dior

→ **BY FARID CHENOUNE**  
This oversized volume gives a history of the 60-year-old haute French label, from its eponymous founder's post WWII New Look to the avant-garde current creations of John Galliano. Vintage photos (a '50s model in a sheath frolicking with elephants) and images of lush new millennium gowns make a good argument that fashion is, yep, art. (\$150, Assouline)

## 3 Stylist: The Interpreters of Fashion

→ **BY SARAH MOWER**  
Mower, a contributing editor of Vogue, uses a bit of text and many, many photos by the likes of Annie Leibovitz and Richard Avedon to chronicle fashion stylists. Handsomely paid, yet often unknown to the public, such clothing-combining wizards use their sense of what's "new and next" to dress models and celebs. (\$75, Rizzoli)

## 4 The Party Dress

→ **BY ALEXANDRA BLACK**  
A retrospective of fête-ready frocks from the late 19th century through today boasts illustrations, historical and contemporary photos plus quotes and trivia about Cinderella-ing up for a big bash. Chapters are grouped by party types; one on formal soirees shows off a billowing gray Dior gown Lauren Bush wore as a 2000 deb in Paris. (\$60, Rizzoli)

## NEW FASHION BOOKS STUDY UP ON ICONIC DESIGNERS, DOWNTOWN COOL AND THE FROCKS THAT ROCK.

## 5 American Fashion

→ **BY CHARLIE SCHEIPS**  
With 300 images of the fash pack, from Lauren Bacall circa 1957 to Claudia Schiffer in a 1990s Michael Kors leather body suit, this volume makes for a good flip-through. A sort of road map of American fashion since the 1920s, the book charts trends and styles from flappers to rappers via magazine covers, advertisements and more. (\$50, Assouline)

## 6 MisShapes

→ **BY GORDON NICOL**  
From 2002 until this September, hipsters and rockers (Interpol, AFI) strutted gritty, downtown cool at MisShapes parties in New York. Skinny boys in drain pipes and suspenders, rapper Kelis in a bright hoodie and shades, model Agyness Deyn in Day-Glo tights—it's no surprise this was breed-ing ground for many fashion folks' inspirations. (\$25, MTV Press)

## 7 New York Look Book

→ **BY AMY LARocca & JAKE CHESSUM**  
New York magazine celebrates its city's fashionable denizens with its popular "Look Book" feature. In it, subjects, scouted on the street, are interviewed about their style and photographed. Borough dwellers populating the book range from an Edwardian punk top in a top hat and striped pants to a high school girl in green tights and cowboy boots. (\$25, Melcher Media)

## 8 Lanvin

→ **BY DEAN L. MERCERON**  
In 1889, Jeanne Lanvin began as a 16-year-old milliner. Ten years later, her label was showing haute couture. Both strong and feminine, her house grew to encompass clothing, lingerie and fragrance. This book bursts with photos, text and designer sketches tracing collections from flowing gowns of the '20s to the current crop of slick satin dresses. (\$85, Rizzoli)

## 9 Ralph Lauren

→ **BY RALPH LAUREN**  
Forty years ago, when men's ties sold for about \$4, young Ralph Lauren began hawking his for \$12 each. In time, his blue-blooded, yacht-clubby clothes and housewares morphed into the first "lifestyle" brand. This 482-page tome includes nearly 1,000 photos, sketches and ads, all illustrating that enviable good life Ralph promises—his own. (\$135, Rizzoli)

## 10 Details Men's Style Manual

→ **BY DAN PERES**  
Need to know which shoes to wear, how long your jeans should be or advice on buying a suit? This guide could help even a fashion-challenged doofus look good. Tips are arranged textbook-style with easy-to-discern illustrations and "rules of style" doled out by designers that the average guy has actually heard of. (\$30, Gotham)

## 11 Glamour Girls

→ **BY PATRICK McMULLAN**  
Whether it's Britney in a bra-bar-ing black lace Dolce & Gabbana or Joan Collins in a demure sheath, over-the-top, red-carpet world party shutterbug Patrick McMullan captures nearly nightly headlines in a book of wild photos of the glitterati. In the frames? Actresses, heiresses, drag queens and debutantes, all in various states of sparkle. (\$70, Pmc Publishing)

# Styles | entertaining

bash in a  
**flash**

## A Cure for What Ailed Us

■ Take a deep breath: Oct. 19 is the 64th anniversary of the discovery of streptomycin, the first antibiotic effective against lung-ravaging tuberculosis (it's also used against bubonic plague).

To give this powerful drug a worthy birthday bash, don a lab coat and serve cocktails in beakers, suggests Debra Crawford, an Alexandria party planner. Screen guests with "TB tests" at the door by marking their arms with a ball-point pen (if the spot swells up for real, scream). Dispense travel-size bottles of Purel or hand soap to encourage good hygiene throughout the evening and on subsequent international flights.



Entertainment options include a screening of "Moulin Rouge" or a poetry-writing session (Victorians thought what they called "consumption" made its sufferers more creative — see John Keats, for example). Or fête other famed victims with an impromptu staging of Anton Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchard" set to the music of Frederick Chopin.

Send your pals home with toy syringes containing colorful sports drinks, says Kathryn Harris of K&K Event. But before they go, hit them up for small donations to Doctors Without Borders (Doctors withoutborders.org), which fights both tuberculosis and plague worldwide.

RACHEL KAUFMAN

**event horizon**

Sample more than a wee dram at a Scotch Malt Whisky Society tasting extravaganza, featuring 60 types of Robert Burns' favorite drink plus food. \$120. Oct. 24, 6:30-9 p.m. 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, 800-990-1991.



fists of fun



the Wii glow



party essentials

PHOTOS BY CHRIS COMBS/EXPRESS

# That's the Way Wii Do It

## Group-friendly video games can be a blast at your bash

It's 8:15 on a Friday evening in Fairfax. Cintia Runha, 30, and Win Raguini, 27, stand side by side on a backyard deck, their eyes intensely focused on the 50-inch TV screen in front of them, their arms furiously pummeling like bongo players hopped up on caffeine pills.

"I don't know which one I am!" Runha yells in exasperation as 25 partygoers look on, amused by her failed attempts to direct her player in Nintendo's Wii Boxing. She thrusts her arms in the air: "Stand up! Stand up!" It's too late. Raguini has delivered a knock-out punch, and Runha's virtual counterpart (known as a Mii) crumples to the floor. "I'm glad nobody had money on me," she laughs.

Host Sean Powers, 28, hesitates to call his get-together a "Wii party." "It's just a party with the Wii," he explains as he grills up steaks, burgers and sausages. "Wii parties are more casual and weekday-ish" — just friends playing video games.

Yet a glance around his back-

yard tells a different story. Yes, the atmosphere says "low-key barbecue" — strategically placed tiki torches, an ice-filled bucket of Coronas and Bud Lites, the Strokes' "Hard to Explain" reverberating in the background. But it's clear that the Wii is the star.

Not once in the entire evening's duration does the TV go dark.

One guest, intent on not surrendering his turn, holds tight to his Wii controller as he grabs a sausage with his free hand, then continues his game of Wii Tennis while eating.

Wii party veteran Susan Linney has no qualms about basing entire shindigs around the game system. "I like to throw parties, but I always feel like I need to have a theme to it or it's not going to be a success," says the 32-year-old New Yorker. "Once I got my Wii, I realized it's really fun to play with a whole bunch of people. It's the perfect reason to throw a party."

Linney recommends four-player Wii Bowling for groups. (Wii Sports — which has bowling, boxing,

tennis, golf and baseball — comes with the console). "You can play like you would in an alley," she says. "Everyone gets a turn."

Powers suggests multi-player games like "Big Brain Academy" (\$42, Amazon.com). "It's a puzzle game that anybody can figure out in five or 10 minutes," he says. "It has up to 12 players, so you can have teams and pass off the remote. It's kind of like a relay race with a video game."

At his bash, however, the crowd definitely favors sports. Strangers pair up to play virtual tennis doubles; a gaggle of guys huddle to talk Wii Golf putting strategy.

After finishing a round of tennis, Andrew Walsh, 28, takes a breather on a bench, cracks open a beer and cautions potential players against overzealous Wii-ing. "I read about people who get injuries from playing Wii," he says. "I thought it was completely fictitious, like, 'Dude, you seriously can't strain an elbow playing Wii.' I came over and we played for an hour or two ... and the next day I woke up really sore."

Sure enough, there are a few moans of "Wii elbow" here and there, but otherwise the gathering is a success.

Ready for more variety? Linney just purchased "Carnival Games" (\$39, Amazon.com). "There's a strongman game, another one where you dunk a guy.

My next Wii party is going to be carnival-themed. You can make it cheesy, have cotton candy and make it like Coney Island."

Powers, on the other hand, will stick to the basics. Don't worry too much about amusing guests while they aren't Wii-ing (it's still a party, after all) and just focus on the essentials: "Four controllers, multi-player games and beer," he says. "That's about it."

KRIS CORONADO (EXPRESS)

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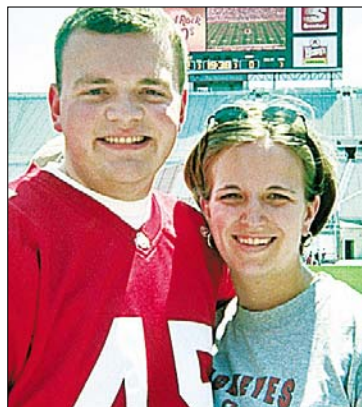
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# B.I.O.

✱ BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS



## Bradley Saull, Christina Tuff

Christina, 25, works in communications. Bradley, 25, works for the Department of Homeland Security. They live in Del Ray.

- **The Main Event:** An intimate Catholic ceremony in Old Town on Oct. 20, at the church they've attended since they began dating.
- **How They Met:** In a tiny class during their senior year at Ohio State. "I tried to impress her by actually doing the reading," says Bradley.
- **First Date:** Dinner at Bobby Van's Steakhouse in D.C., followed by a Woody

Allen movie. Says Christina: "Bradley held my hand — it was so cute!" "It's still probably the most expensive meal I've ever had," says Bradley.

■ **How He Proposed:** At the Alexandria waterfront. "I was so shocked," says Christina. "I don't remember a thing he said, and I could barely see the ring because it was so dark out."

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "A tie between his Cedar Point tracksuit and his Ohio State Hawaiian-theme shirt."

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "Bradley didn't know where Sao Paulo was and it was very upsetting to me for some reason."

■ **The Cake:** A three-tier Bavarian creme cake. "I am going to hunt down every uneaten piece," says Christina.

■ **Wedding Jitters:** "That I will make a stupid face during the ceremony and the photographer will capture it," he says. "I will never live it down!"

"After a while, I just couldn't imagine my life without him."



## Megan McElroy, Matt Stokes

Megan, 24, is a legislative associate at Stateside Associates. Matt, 24, is an associate agent for Nationwide. They live in Crofton, Md.

- **The Main Event:** A black-tie ceremony and reception in Silver Run, Md., on Nov. 24. A casual second party starts "when our first venue kicks us out," says Megan.
- **How They Met:** In the high school lunch room as ninth-graders.
- **First Impression:** "He could do a perfect Cartman impression."
- **First Date:** Never had one. "He just asked me to be his girlfriend."
- **How He Proposed:** They went out to dinner in Ocean City to celebrate their anniversary, and Matt surprised Megan by taking a knee in front of their families.
- **When She Knew:** When her friend developed liver disease, Matt wanted to see whether his liver was a match.

## The Keys to Happiness

MARK BRYAN thought he had it all figured out. He proposed to ERIN CLAY atop the Empire State Building. But "he was so nervous, he left the car keys at the metal detector," recalls Erin. "His dad had to pick us up at 4 a.m." When they got to the car, their brand-new stereo had been stolen. That's unforgettable, all right.

The couple, who met as sophomore dorm mates at George Washington University, will wed on Nov. 10 in D.C. The semi-formal ceremony will include yelling "mazel tov" in honor of Mark's Jewish heritage. The dress? Make that two. Erin will wear a poofy organza number and then will change into a beaded evening gown "so I can get down with my bad self on the dance floor." Natch. Unique touches include crystal-laden table cards and pink glowing ice cubes. They just hope tipsy pals won't "dig into the mashed potato bar with their fingers."

Mark, 27, conducts fundraising for Population Action International. Erin, 27, is an exhibitions coordinator at the Trust for Museum Exhibitions. They live in D.C.

## Brian Cooper, Kim Zaikov

Brian, 29, is a sales professional. Kim, 28, is an audit manager. They live in Cleveland Park.

- **The Main Event:** A traditional Jewish ceremony on Nov. 17 in Bethesda.
- **How They Met:** Sipping drinks at Tony and Joe's at the Georgetown Waterfront. "Brian commented on my Blue Curacao drink, so I offered him some," says Kim. "He responded, 'I don't take drinks from strangers!'"

■ **First Date:** They disagree on this point: "Dinner at Rio Grande," says Brian. "Hanging out on July Fourth," counters Kim.

■ **How He Proposed:** Before popping the question, Brian made Kim breakfast in bed, then served blue Gatorade as a reminder of how they met.

■ **When They Knew:** "Kim helped me paint my condo." "After Brian spent the weekend with my family and survived."



■ **Their Song:** The Fray's "How to Save a Life." "We got it from watching 'Grey's Anatomy,'" admits Brian. "Yes, we watch the show."

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "Brian has running pants covered in paint that could mysteriously disappear."

■ **Making It Unique:** In lieu of favors, the couple will be making a donation to Emory University's Eye Center. Kim's brother was diagnosed with eye cancer a year ago and was treated and cured at Emory.

■ **With an Infinite Budget:** "We'd have dueling pianos at the cocktail hour."

■ **Weird Family Traditions:** "Brian's family has a strange obsession with Wilt Chamberlain, so Wilt winds up photoshopped into many pictures," explains Kim.

"At New Year's Eve two years ago, [Megan] started a fight because we didn't kiss at midnight."

- **Their Song:** David Gray's "This Year's Love." "The worst part is that I'm a big speed-metal fan," says Matt.
- **Wetting Jitters:** "That Matt's friends will dress as Ninja Turtles."
- **Celebrating Heritage:** "How do you reflect a British background?" Matt asks. "Maybe we will eat something that tastes awful."
- **Making It Unique:** The couple will be introduced at the reception to Megadeth's "Duke Nukem" theme.

**Getting Married?** If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photograph (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names and ceremony date to [weddings@readexpress.com](mailto:weddings@readexpress.com). Please contact us at least one month before your wedding. We'll get back to you with some questions as your big day approaches.



# out there

SEEKING ANSWERS  
ON THE TOWN

**Q** What is your favorite aspect of autumn?

**9:30 CLUB | U STREET | SEPT. 26**

It's easy to forget it's fall while tramping around a pumpkin patch in a tank top and sandals, no? (Minus the presence of those orange orbs.) Let's pretend it's brisk out, and talk about the, er, changing season.

**1. "We love the fall. We're getting married in the fall!"** Noelle Nista, left, and Cris Otepka. **2. "I'm going home to help my parents pick cranberries,"** Sarah Meharg, left. **"Fewer tourists,"** Craig Schultz. **3. "Apple cider,"** Ingrid Seggerman. **"Mulled wine!"** Josh Cook. **4. "No more ants in my kitchen,"** Leo Salom, left. **"I'm a big fan of sweater weather,"** Steven Siebers. **5. "Pumpkin-flavored everything,"** Hunter Styles. **6. "There are a lot more meth labs open,"** Stephen Dadie. **7. "It's my favorite season because the color changing is the most spiritual time of year,"** Margo Weiner, left, with Rosie Piepoli. **8. "I live in Hong Kong. We don't have a fall,"** Bram Rosenfeld, left. **"It's a good time for touring,"** Dan McCarthy. **9. "The smell,"** Liz Parsons. **"Halloween. Ghosts,"** Jonathan Seale. COLLEEN EGAN



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